

THE CHART

Skepticism abounds over proposed facility

Student claims
to be developer
of racing track

BY CHRISTOPHER CLARK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
AND STEVE SAKACH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

A whirlwind of speculation about the construction of a racing motorplex by Missouri Southern student Mike Long has the year-old developer upset.

Long, a junior communications major and student operations manager for KXMS, the College's radio station, announced his intentions to develop a sizable drag-strip facility near Joplin during a Monday press conference on campus.

In the announcement, Long also outlined plans for a PGA-sanctioned golf course, hotel, convention center, and multi-purpose arena. Estimated costs of the venture could reach \$500 million.

Long claims to be owner and developer of the race track, and his financier, Rhema Financial Enterprises (Brooklyn, N.Y.), is said to be the developer of the outlying structures.

Rhema is currently funding a \$2.5 billion project on the island of St. Martin in the Caribbean, Long said.

"They've got the money to do it or



Mike Long

they've got access to the money to do it," Long said. "So when we announced the project was going to be half a billion dollars, people said, 'Yeah right, where are you going to get that kind of money?' But that's nothing to them (Rhema)."

At the press conference with Long was Darrell Zimmerman, the west-central division director for the National Hot Rod Association, which will sanction the track. According to Zimmerman, the track's facility will be second in size only to a similar facility in Topeka, Kan. Zimmerman said the NHRA would bring one national event to Joplin each year as part of a long-term commitment with the facility.

Long was scheduled to meet with Zimmerman in Topeka for a formal "national" announcement of Long's intentions to build a track near Joplin.

Long said development of the track portion of the complex could approach \$35 million.

The proposed site has been estimated to be approximately 1,600 acres and located five to six miles outside of Joplin, according to Carl Taylor, Long's realtor.

Taylor and Long refused to disclose the locations of the site, hinting only that the venture could be split between two 800-acre parcels if the first option falls through. They have four or five alternative locations in mind.

Closure of the land purchase is expected to be within 60-90 days, Taylor said.

"I'm buying the land," Long said. "They will buy their share of the land from me. I will lock up the total acreage, then they will buy it back from me."

The development's impact on the Joplin community has not been gauged. Joplin Mayor Cheryl Dandridge, who attended Monday's press conference, said she has "every intention" of backing Long's development, but is skeptical because of the nature of his refusal to disclose key facts about the venture.

"I hope to see ground-breaking in 60 to 90 days," Dandridge said. "I think he called a press conference a little early because there were an awful lot of questions that could not be answered, and that really bothers me."

"I've seen most people call press conferences after they have acquired the land and after they can state

Long's attorney to sue 'Chart'

In both a telephone call and a letter delivered to *The Chart* yesterday, Mike Long's attorney promised legal action if segments of Long's past are published.

Barry Langford, representing Long, told Christopher Clark, editor-in-chief of *The Chart*, that publication of Long's history is not "newsworthy."

"If you print this you could not be held for libel because it's true," Langford said. "But there's another arm of defamation law that's emerged in about the last 10 years that a lot of people don't know about, and that is called the doctrine of personal privacy and invasion of privacy."

Langford said Long's record is not "relevant" to *The Chart's* story on his business venture.

"If you guys print anything about Mike having a criminal record, you're probably going to have to deal with a lawsuit based on his invasion of privacy. You're disclosing private facts about him that are embarrassing and not relevant to the story at hand," Langford said.

Langford followed up the telephone call by having Long deliver a letter to Clark at *The Chart's* office. The letter said:

"This will confirm our telephone conversation of today's date. As I advised you, I am Mike Long's attorney. As you recall, you and I discussed your interview of Mr.

Long, your discussion of Mr. Long's prior criminal record and your possible plans to print an article which contains information about Mr. Long's criminal record.

"As I advised you, if you do print such a [sic] article, it is Mr. Long's intention to initiate litigation against [sic] you seeking damages [sic] based upon the doctrine of invasion of privacy. Simply put, any disclosure of information pertaining to his prior criminal record is not relevant to the point at hand, and we would seek to initiate litigation based upon your public disclosure of these private facts about Mr. Long."

"I have known Mr. Long for approximately three years, and he has rehabilitated [sic] himself admirably, and once again if the information is printed regarding his criminal record, litigation will be instituted against your newspaper without further notice."

Clark said *The Chart* was publishing these facts about Long after conferring with College attorneys.

"We were told that we stand on firm ground pertaining to the newsworthiness of Long's history," Clark said. "Publishing these facts is not an invasion of anyone's privacy. We're confident of the relevancy."

On "Jean Campbell's Showcase," a Missouri Southern Television-produced program that aired on

MSTV, cable channel 18, and on K57DR on March 9-10, 1989, Long himself discussed his past.

"I've been to the penitentiary twice," Long said. "And my total time in the Missouri Department of Corrections has been a total of four years. That's about two years the first time and two years the second time. In between the first time and the second time, I spent roughly four years in county jail systems, in miscellaneous counties for miscellaneous crimes."

Long was introduced on the program as an ex-convict.

"When I was in prison," he said, "I decided it was time to change my life around, and instead of more or less taking advantage of people and taking advantage of life. More or less taking it for granted, I more or less decided to take advantage of the resources out there to make something of myself and turn it around to where I would feel better about myself and I would also build my trust with my family and my respect from my family."

Long, who spoke of now being able to handle "people looking at me funny" for being an ex-convict, said "society in general has a problem dealing with ex-felons."

"They think we're no good, [that] we're dishonest, [and that] we'll con them out of anything at anytime. [That] we can't be trusted. If society would open up their minds a little...listen."

Investor was unaware of Long's background

BY CHRISTOPHER CLARK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
AND STEVE SAKACH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Mike Long's announcement of a half billion-dollar event complex has raised questions of financial feasibility and credibility.

Long, who claims to be the developer of the race-track portion of the complex, said he has secured the financial backing of Rhema Financial Services, of Brooklyn, N.Y., and a Swiss Bank. Long would not disclose any more about his financing.

Questions about Long's background have prompted skepticism of his ability to develop such a large venture.

In an interview on Missouri Southern Television in March 1989, Long discussed his past and times spent in prison.

"I've been to the penitentiary twice," Long said. "And my total time in the Missouri Department of Corrections has been a total of four years."

According to public records, in 1978 Long was charged with fraud in Clay County (Mo.) for passing bad checks. According to Clay County prosecuting attorney Michael Reardon, the charges were dropped by the county's then-prosecuting attorney, so that Long could be prosecuted in Kansas on similar charges.

In 1980, Long was sentenced to two years in the Missouri Department of Corrections for passing bad checks. In 1982, he served six months in the Clay County jail for a similar violation. In 1986, he was convicted in Clay County of fraud and was sentenced to four years in corrections, but was paroled in February 1988. He was released from parole in April of this year.

In the MSTV interview, Long said during the years between his terms in the state's Department of

Corrections, he spent "roughly four years in county jail systems, in miscellaneous counties for miscellaneous crimes."

As of Tuesday, Francois Belfor, president of Rhema Financial Enterprises, was unaware of his past. Long and Belfor have never met in person, as the development's financial orchestration has come entirely over the phone and through the mail thus far.

"He called me," Belfor said. "I had an ad in *The New York Post*. From there on we've been talking. He originally wanted a loan for a [\$25,000] race car."

Belfor did not express concern about not meeting Long before making finances available to him. When told of Long's background, he said it was the first he had heard about his time in prison.

"We usually look into this," Belfor said, "but Mike is my friend."

About Long's prison terms, Belfor said, "I am a bit surprised."

Long told *The Chart* yesterday that Belfor was in the process of relocating Rhema Financial Enterprises to Joplin from Brooklyn. Long said Belfor would be in Joplin over the weekend to purchase a home, but would not grant any interviews about the development.

Long defended his involvement in the development, despite his past.

"You got to be in the right place at the right time, and you got to know the right people," Long said. "I've been in racing since I was knee-high to a grasshopper. You make connections over the years involved in the automotive industry."

"As for my 'criminal record' that everybody makes such a big deal about, that's fine; if they want to call me a criminal, that's their problem. God forgave me for what I did. As long as he can forgive me, I don't give a shit who else does."

Smith sees 1994 building completion date

BY CHRISTOPHER CLARK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Members of the multi-purpose building steering committee met Friday to discuss initial strategies toward bringing such a facility here.

After being served breakfast in the House of Lords room, members of the committee, which include various business and civic leaders from around Jasper County, were shown a video from Southeast Missouri State University, site of the Show-Me Center, a facility similar to the kind of building that would be built here.

The video illustrated different kinds of events held there, including appearances by Bob Hope and John Denver, and concerts by rock music artists Kiss, Aerosmith, and Tina Turner.

A slide presentation also was shown, outlining the statistical and aesthetic dimensions of the Show-Me Center.

In opening remarks to the committee, Russell Smith, a member of the College's Board of Regents, said estimated cost figures are \$12-\$15 million, making the building "one of the largest single building efforts in the history of the region for a public

facility."

"If anyone can make this dream come true, this group can," Smith told the committee. "We have the ability to make things happen. With your dedicated efforts and creative ideas, we will open the doors of this multi-purpose auditorium in 1994."

Committee members were handed folders containing statistical information about SEMO's facility, which has a capacity of 8,000. Included in the folders was a preliminary blueprint of the possible site of Southern's building, on the corner of Newman and Duquesne roads.

College President Julio Leon at-

tended the meeting and addressed the group. Leon was among a group which journeyed to SEMO in July to tour the Show-Me Center.

"We keep hearing about it (the Show-Me Center)," Leon said. "It seems to be the kind of size that approximates a building we have talked about."

Leon said plans for the building "are ready to go," saying "if we had the funding we could ask for bids tomorrow. We have the architect's plans finalized for that kind of a

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Arena, page 2

CLOSE CALL



STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS COX

crosswalk, on Duquesne Road connecting the Hughes Stadium parking lot to the campus, has proven hazardous to pedestrians.

City has no answer

Tiede asks for lower speed limit to provide safety

BY ANGIE STEVENSON
MANAGING EDITOR

Improvements of Joplin roadways for the increased safety of motorists has been of recent concern for the city, but the safety of Missouri Southern students may have been put on the back burner.

In June, Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, directed a letter to Harold McCoy, director of public works, requesting alteration of the current speed limit on the stretch of Duquesne Road passing the College.

Tiede's reduced speed limit proposal, which remains unanswered by the city, comes in answer to concern for the safety of students using the crosswalks on Duquesne. McCoy said yesterday that the traffic com-

mittee through which the proposal must travel will look into the matter "some time in the future."

"The work load has been such that the committee hasn't yet been able to do the necessary research," said McCoy. "Also, to compile accurate data, research could not be done until school was back in session."

According to McCoy, after the traffic committee attends to the matter, it then must receive recommendation from the staff. From there, the proposal would be subject to consideration of the City Council.

Tiede is optimistic that once the request is considered, action will

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Crosswalk, page 8

TWO SIDES



Minerva Glidden, president of Four-State Citizens for Choice, presents her views in an abortion question and answer session.

Club meeting features abortion topi

BY T.R. HANRAHAN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Two films addressing the subject of abortion followed by a question and answer session highlighted last Thursday's meeting of the Philosophy Club.

The *Silent Screams* illustrates the effects of an abortion on a 12-week fetus, and *So Many Voices* features interviews with persons who have had abortions for medical reasons and those who have been affected by illegal abortion before the procedure became lawful. The films were presented to the audience, and the floor was then opened for questions.

Minerva Glidden, president of Four-State Citizens for Choice and a registered nurse, responded to questions from the audience about abortion and the social forces at work in the debate over the subject.

In response to one question, Glidden pointed out that inflated rhetoric exists on both sides of the question, and referred to the debate as "a struggle for hearts and minds."

"There is a correlation between

language and visuals in winning those hearts and minds," Glidden explained. "There is language that is inflammatory on both sides."

Glidden said the relatively short attention span of the American culture makes resolution of this problem difficult.

"I think we live in a culture where the attention span is about six seconds," she said. "Unfortunately, politics, advertising—everything has forced people into doing those quick-shot sound bites. That is unfortunate, because this is not a quick, easy issue."

One member of the audience expressed the opinion that a woman's choice ends when she agrees to sexual intercourse. While Glidden agreed that women should accept responsibility for their actions, she said society's view of relationships has changed.

"We live in a society where we now look upon sexual relations and intimacy as an added dimension to a relationship," she said. "Most people do not look at sexual relationships as something solely used for

procreation."

Glidden responded to questions about the possible effects should a conservative majority on the U.S. Supreme Court overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

"I believe that if the Supreme Court overturns the right to privacy and returns it to the states, that we will have places in this country where you can get abortion on demand and places where women will be forced to have children whether they want to or not," she said.

Asked whether nominees to the court should be questioned about their personal beliefs on the issue, Glidden told the group that she considers the *Roe v. Wade* decision vital.

"I consider *Roe v. Wade* as essential to me as *Brown v. [the Topeka] Board of Education* would be to a black person," she said. "This nominee (Judge David Souter) will be confirmed—that's a virtual certainty—but I do wish we had pressed him further on it (*Roe v. Wade*)."

Other audience questions involved advances in medical technology affecting the abortion debate, namely

RU-486, better known as the "after-pill." Glidden expressed concern that efforts by the movement to keep the pill on the United States may have a negative effect on treatment of other conditions.

"I think the other side wants to keep it out because it would radically change the debate," she said. "This would be taken three days after a missed menses, nobody would have to have a woman aborted."

"RU-486 is being kept out of the United States even though it has been shown to be helpful for cancer and rheumatoid arthritis simply because it can be used in a manner (abortion)."

According to Glidden, a portion of the controversy requires sides to engage in responsible dialogue.

"This is an issue that is tearing this country apart," she said. "We need to dialogue, we need the extremes of both sides, and the body is going to have to face the question."

Students attend convention

Yocum believes students did well on presentation

Undergraduate research projects, focusing on nonverbal communication, were presented last week by two Missouri Southern students.

Dr. Karolyn Yocum, assistant professor of communications, attended the annual Speech and Theatre Association of Missouri (STAM) fall convention in Lake Ozark, Mo. Seniors Shirley Judah and Kelly Wells also attended and were part of a seminar focusing on undergraduate research.

"Overall, our Missouri Southern students did very well in presenting their papers to an audience with a majority of college and university professors attending," said Yocum. "One respondent said the presentations were better than 90-95 percent of those given at the Speech Communication Association conference, which is the national meeting."

Judah and Wells initiated research last spring in Yocum's Nonverbal Communication class. Primitive studies were conducted in various environments, chosen by the students themselves, to test different aspects of nonverbal communication and their impact. Appearance, eye contact, body language, and facial expressions were among the topic areas students could select.

Wells studied the impact of female appearance vs. male approachability in a bar setting, and Judah focused on assessing nonverbal behaviors associated with deception. She analyzed a local preliminary hearing for an accused murder suspect.

Yocum said the studies were important because they put students out in the field to test their own hypotheses and communication theories discussed in class. As an advocate to introduce and expand the idea of student research to other disciplines on both the college level and high school levels, Yocum presented the seminar "Guiding Undergraduate Research."

"The convention was a lot of fun and a real learning experience for me," said Wells. "Presenting our projects was an honor, and the audience was very receptive to our seminar as a whole."

Said Yocum, "The students and their research served as examples to demonstrate the type of work/study that all students should be experiencing in all classes. It's putting applications and knowledge from the classroom with real-life situations to form a unique learning experience."

According to Yocum, this was the first program/seminar offered at a STAM convention to focus on student undergraduate research and be conducted in part by the students themselves. As a result of the positive feedback she received from those attending, STAM will provide two seminars annually at conventions pertaining to graduate and undergraduate research and presentation.

"The programs will be competitive and papers submitted ahead of time to STAM will be reviewed by a committee. Those selected will then be part of either a graduate or undergraduate seminar."

Yocum said the project came about as a result of the student research grant/funds made available by Southern. Last year, the College made a line budget item of \$15,000 for undergraduate research and presentation. College President Julio Leon formulated the idea and encouraged its development. He wanted worthy projects to be funded by the College.

FENDER BENDER



David Pridgen, freshman, inspects the damage caused by a driver for Osborn Paper, while officer G. L. Tuck makes his report.

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facility."

But the College is without the kind of money needed to build a multi-purpose facility. Leon said that in the early 1980s, the College might have been ready to accept larger state funding, but the state shifted allocation priorities.

"Just about the time we were to go to the state and ask for the construction for this facility," Leon said, "the state shifted its emphasis. They changed the policy where they said that they would not build more athletic facilities on our campuses."

Though the facility would be used strictly for athletic events, Leon mentioned a referendum passed last year that would provide state funding for athletic facilities. Leon urged members of the committee to do all they could to help convince county residents of the need for a multi-purpose facility.

"It's obvious that this facility would have a substantial economic impact on the whole area," said Leon.

In outlining possible funding sources, Leon mentioned a referendum passed last year that would provide state funding for athletic facilities in first-class counties. Leon said the College is not located in a first-class

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Senate bends rules, program gets \$1,700

BY DIANE VAN DERA
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With a projected semester budget of \$11,000 the Student Senate, last night, in its first meeting of the year, set a precedent that some senators are seeing as a future problem.

A requisition was presented from the College Orientation program for \$1,700 to fund a trip to a national convention in Hartford, Conn., for college orientation programs.

The orientation staff asked for a suspension of the rules to hear the first and second readings at one meeting in order to reserve hotel rooms and plane fares.

According to Mary Hanewinkel, Student Senate president, though the Senate has a precedent that an organization must have a constitution to receive funds, the Senate overlooked that due to the orientation program's strong ties with students.

Lory St. Clair, treasurer, stated that because College Orientation is a student organization, the Senate was allowed to give it the full \$1,700 asked, rather than the Senate's limit of \$1,000 per semester, per organization.

A half-hour discussion was set off when a motion was made and seconded to award the group the full \$1,700, but was then changed to the \$1,000 limit.

David Swenson, junior class senator, said during the meeting that because the allocation would set the

precedent for the year, the amount should be kept to the set maximum.

"When you look at the fact that what is learned at the convention will help every incoming freshman in the future," St. Clair said, "the money is split into a fraction of a penny per person."

The amount of the allocation was changed back to \$1,700, and in a majority vote the money was given to the orientation program. Senators who would benefit from the funding because of their orientation position, were not in on the vote.

Though four of the nine junior-class senators, five of the nine senior-class senators, and three of the four elected officers are orientation leaders, Hanewinkel says there is no connection between that and the fund allocation.

St. Clair does not see a way to separate Senate duties and affiliation with other organizations the senators might belong to.

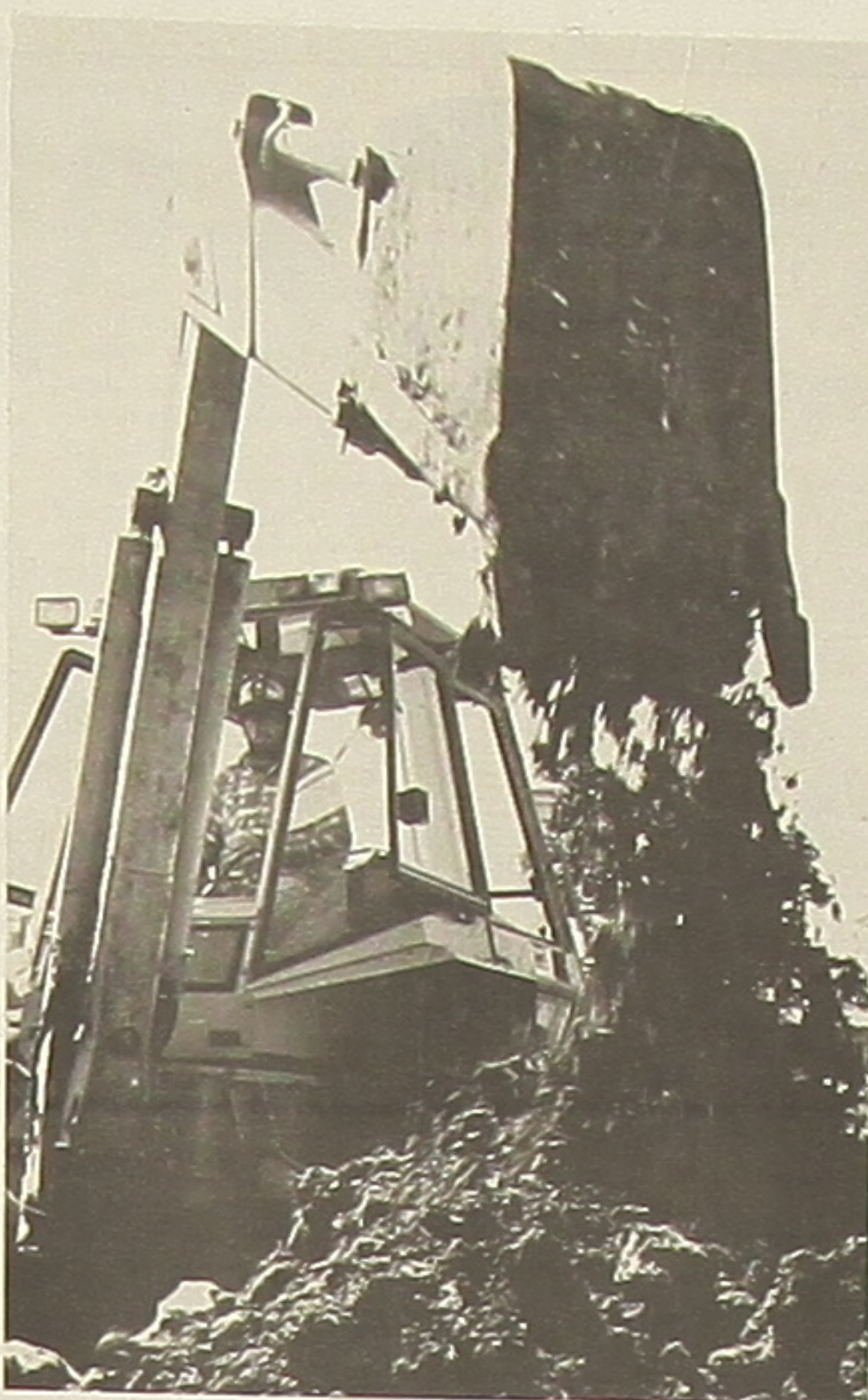
"Those who are involved are involved," St. Clair said. "You can't fight that. Most of these people are officers on other clubs."

St. Clair said she is unsure what the result of the decision will be.

"I'm worried about the precedent because I'm the one who has to deal with it," she said. "I'm scared of what's going to come up next, but I think it's worth every penny."

The money will be applied in the following ways: \$555 for registration, \$966 for airfare, and \$237 for a hotel room for three nights.

A DIRTY JOB



Jerry Baker, a worker for Ames Excavating Company, digs a hole Monday behind Hearn Hall to fix the "primary underground."

STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS COX

Students move into completed residence hall

BY STEVE SAKACH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Students who made the Hallmark Inn their home since the beginning of the fall semester moved to the recently completed residence hall during the weekend.

Delays in construction forced Missouri Southern to house 32 students at the motel since Aug. 15.

"It was a real inconvenience," said Doug Carnahan, director of student life. "For some students the novelty began wearing off after a couple of weeks and they wanted to move in. We're glad we didn't have to drag it

on any further."

After inspection, only a few minor problems remain, said Bob Beeler, director of Southern's physical plant.

"There's a couple of heating and air problems, some painting—most of it's minor," he said. "We hope it will be completed in the next few days."

Not every student in the new residence hall moved from the motel. Junior Chris Fusselman was relocated from Webster Hall.

"Our room had been flooded with about half an inch of water after the last rain," said Fusselman. "This is much, much, much better."

"Webster Hall was in pretty bad shape. Furniture is old and chipped, everything seems like it's falling apart. This is great here; everything is new—the furniture, carpeting, and beds."

The construction setback on the new residence hall (building H) was caused by a heavy spring rain and difficulties with a sub-contractor, according to the Dalton-Killinger Construction Co.

The College was aware of the delays in April, but waited to see what progress could be made before the start of the semester.

Dr. John Tiede, senior vice presi-

dent, said he expects the construction company to pick up the motel bill, which is nearly \$15,000. However, Dalton-Killinger is asking for an extension on the time allotted for construction due to the weather problems.

"We haven't sat down and hammered it out yet," Tiede said. "We need to get myself, the architect, contractors, and everyone together."

"I don't expect us to be giving up a whole lot of days as far as the weather; you always expect some sort of weather delays and you plan for that. We're going to need something a little more concrete."

Freeman heads retention effort

New office to analyze student needs

BY DIANE VAN DERA
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Maximizing students' academic experience is one of the goals of the new office of student retention.

"Retention is a by-product of student satisfaction with their school so they will stay and graduate," said Elaine Freeman, retention director.

The office was set up to bring programs together from around the campus that are geared toward student service. These include programs such as College Orientation and support services for non-traditional and adult education programs.

With a collaborative effort among them, Freeman says the rate of students retained until graduation will increase.

"Our orientation program is very important—not just for the freshman year," Freeman said. "We need to be looking at exploration as part of the retention effort."

According to Freeman, the office is in the building mode, trying to analyze student needs and the needs of the College.

"What I have been doing is learning a lot," she said. "I have been talking to people who would have some ideas to help us. There have been some people with really great ideas that bring in focus what is Missouri Southern."

"We will be planning more specific goals in the future, and we will become more specialized as the needs are known. Right now, I see myself as a resource for a lot of different areas and also as a catalyst for a lot of new changes."

The program is run through Dr. Robert Brown, vice president for academic affairs. Brown said the program was set up with student assistance in mind.

"At Missouri Southern, we have a rate of completion that is very good," he said, "but our administration is

always looking for ways to better help the student body."

Freeman said she sees the College as student-oriented, and is glad Southern's first goal is serving the student, both academically and socially.

"We're trying to make sure contacts and linkage are made early in the freshman year," she said. "That's when it's most crucial."

According to Freeman, most reports indicate once students reach their junior or senior year, they are dedicated to that particular college and there is not much change.

She said it is becoming more important to retain the students already enrolled rather than to recruit new ones.

"Realistically, we're facing a decline. The baby boomers have moved down the line, and there just aren't as many students to replace them."

"We have been hearing the news for the past several years that there is a decline in high school seniors, but through that time Missouri Southern has experienced an increase. At the same time, we can't expect the same rate of growth."

Freeman said Southern's smallness is one of its strong points.

"Students get the contact they need," she said. "The ideals the College has traditionally believed to be important will be important in building this program. When you're a strong school, you're always looking for ways to keep that and improve it."

Freeman wants the success of Southern graduates to do more than reflect well on the College.

"I see it from a broader social theme, in that we believe in it and we believe in the value of a college degree," she said. "It's more than that; we feel we're serving the economic needs of the nation."

Freeman, a graduate of Pittsburg State University, came to Southern in 1980 and worked in several offices before being appointed to her new position.

Freeman, who took a leave of absence from Southern the last two years to work on her Ph.D. in higher education policy at the University of Tulsa, is nearing completion of her doctoral dissertation.

ATTENTION STUDENTS

INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION & MISSOURI STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION are sponsoring a "make it, take it" workshop at 6 tonight, in Room 113 of Taylor Education Hall. The workshop will feature "Creative Ways With Chalk" by Kellie Box. Participants are asked to bring a fine-point permanent marker, tissue paper or tracing paper, and white poster board. Interested persons may become members of MSTA or IRA at the workshop. Only members may attend. IRA BUSINESS MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 5:30 P.M.



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Waffle

Eggs

Bacon

Sausage

Grits

Hashbrowns

Egg Sandwich

Plain Omelet

Cheese Omelet

Scuttlebutt

Toast

1/4 lb. Hamburger

1/4 lb. Cheeseburger

Bacon 1/4 lb. Cheeseburger

Bacon, Lettuce, & Tomato

Bacon & Egg Sandwich

Grilled Cheese Sandwich

Sausage & Egg Sandwich

Tossed Salad

Vegetable Beef Soup

Chef Salad

No other promotions valid with this menu.
Available only at this location. Drink not
included—No substitutes. No carry-out orders
allowed with this menu.

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OUR EDITORIALS

Editorials on this page express opinions of The Chart staff. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Don't quit now

Amidst the tall talk and lofty rhetoric, cooler heads have prevailed. Monday's shocker of an announcement of a proposed \$500 million development came as a surprise to many. But because many important questions were left unanswered, a healthy dose of skepticism remains about feasibility.

One of the components of the complex would be a multi-purpose facility, a building that some say would eradicate the need for such a facility on the campus of Missouri Southern. Whether that is the case, assuming anything about the proposed development would be a mistake.

College President Julio Leon is right to keep on studying the feasibility of bringing a multi-purpose building to Southern. Too much work, too much study, and too much coordination has been put into the project to call it quits now.

The county as a whole must be careful here, too. A multi-purpose building on this campus would involve the money and efforts of Jasper County. Only a unified effort will bring that building here, but the county must not be splintered by recent claims that may or may not be true about the development.

While every consideration must be given to the possibilities of the complex, Southern and the surrounding community must forge on with its agenda. Developers of the complex talk as if everything is a done deal and that now it's just a matter of time. From their end, that sounds about right. But from the viewpoint of those who are asking the questions and getting no answers, the tunnel is as dark as it ever was.

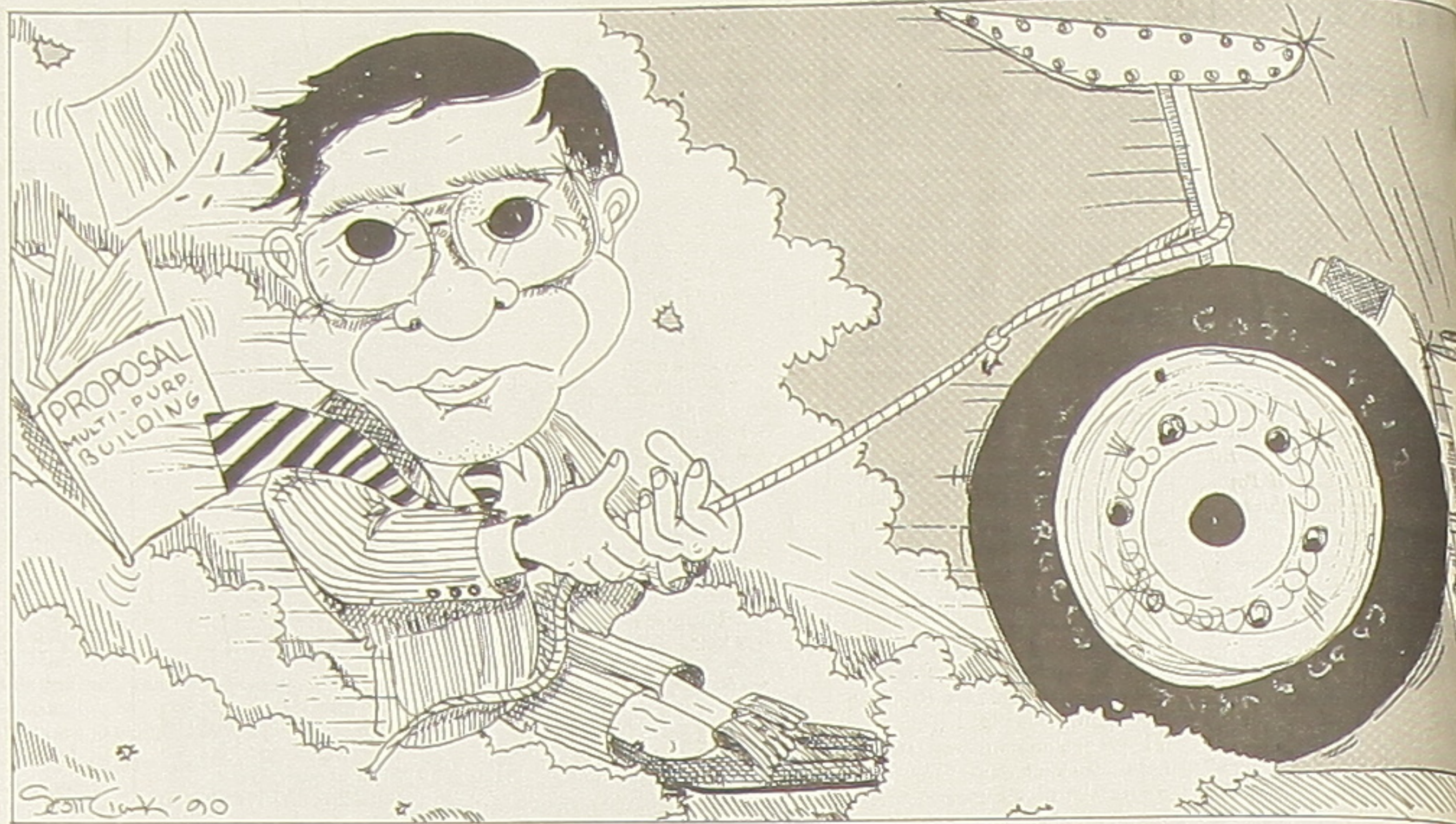
A clean break

The Student Senate may have set a dark precedent last night when it gave \$1,700 to the College Orientation program.

It is Senate policy not to give more than \$1,000 to any organization during a semester, yet the Senate justified this allocation by magnifying the orientation program's ties with the student body. Forget the idea of bending the rules; we're dealing with a clean break here.

The orientation program is *not* a student organization. The Senate's budget is derived from student fees, thus begging the question: How can a College academic program, directed by a full-time College employee paid to administer the program, receive money from students, many of whom already pay to take College Orientation as freshmen? The process by which the Senate talked itself into this one is mind-boggling.

Students take note: The allocation to the orientation program accounts for 16 percent of the Senate's \$11,000 budget for the semester. Call it exaggeration if you wish, but a few more rule suspensions like this will sink the Senate into that all-too-familiar hole called bankruptcy. Never mind that this session is but a week old, and that the term "student senator" is synonymous with "bank teller."



System is less than perfect, but it works

BY T.R. HANRAHAN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The confirmation of Judge David Souter to the Supreme Court of the United States is now a virtual certainty, but the ease with which he will be confirmed seems to beg the same question that has plagued recent nominees: Should the confirmation process examine the political beliefs of the nominee and seek answers to possible rulings in hypothetical cases?

The process has come under examination because of the apparent application of these criteria by the Senate Judiciary Committee, most notably in the case of Reagan appointee Robert Bork. The driving forces behind such a "litmus test" for nominees are the special interest groups determined to have officials in all branches of government who support their political agendas and goals.

This, in itself, is not a major problem since organizations on both sides of any particular question are well funded and highly organized. The groups bring debate and discussion of important national issues to the fore, and that is the basis of an effective representative democracy. However, when any group or in-



EDITOR'S COLUMN

dividual begins to show disrespect for the process or the individuals attempting to affect that process, they serve only to discredit their views and impede intellectual debate.

Last Wednesday, Molly Yard, president of the National Organization for Women, called for an apology from the committee for trivializing "us and our legitimate concerns for women's rights."

The flap began when U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-South Carolina) declined to question Yard and said, "We have a lovely group of ladies here. I thank you for your presence." Yard responded by rolling her eyes and shrugging her shoulders while he spoke.

U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson (R-Wyoming) responded by requesting the same degree of respect for the senators as is accorded the witnesses.

In a column in the Sept. 20 issue of *USA Today*, Simpson said, "I strongly support any group's right to disagree with the Souter nomination. Debate and disagreement are the very essence of our First Amendment rights. However, we have the right to criticize the disrespect and lack of courtesy that representatives of a few women's rights groups displayed toward members of the committee with whom they disagreed."

Simpson also pointed out that while these groups are a welcome and necessary part of the confirmation process, they can hardly claim to speak for all

the women of America. He cited the fact that he rallied the Bush administration for catering to the right wing of the Republican Party with the nomination of Souter, yet more women voted for Bush than Mike Dukakis in 1988.

Yard, in a companion column to that of Simpson, raised concern that Souter will provide a major roadblock to the court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the case that established a woman's right to abortion.

Her concerns and testimony are valid and welcome as are the views of those in favor of Souter's nomination. What is unwelcome is her discouragement of members of Congress attempting to ascertain the suitability for the high court.

Simpson's criticism of Yard's actions is completely justified. While Thurmond undoubtedly displayed an outmoded and ill-advised form of flattery, he trivialized the importance of women's rights.

Politics and issues before the committee play a part in this imbroglio. Thurmond is opposed to the nomination, but Simpson agrees with Yard and supports a woman's right to choose.

The system we have is less than perfect, but it is the best way to maintain the checks and balances necessary to our government. This latest controversy illustrates the problem of allowing a single individual to capture the focus of judicial confirmation. The committee has handled this nomination with grace, and not speculation on future action continues.

Emphasis on individualism is conveyed

BY VAL CHRISTENSEN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ART

A short time ago a student in one of my Art Appreciation classes leveled a charge of conspiracy at me. Taken aback by his statement, I asked him what he meant by that. He responded by saying that the topic we had just addressed in Art Appreciation had been raised in another of his classes across campus. It had started him wondering if the instructors got together and planned what they were going to present on any given day.

I quickly denied any duplicity on my part in a desire to quickly quell any notion that I would be involved in any clandestine undertaking of that nature. However, having reflected upon the nature of the charge, I must confess.

Indeed dear student there is a campus wide conspiracy which involves not only classroom instructors but also those in the highest level of the college administration. It is a conspiracy in the archaic sense of the word. We collectively planned and are currently



IN PERSPECTIVE

implementing an action which we perceive to be in the best interest of the student. What I am specifically referring to is the core curriculum. The faculty and administration of this institution have consciously sought to establish a common ground, and through a concerted effort to convey to each student certain knowledge which it feels is essential to being declared an educated individual.

I invite the reader of this article to review the nature of this conspiracy by opening the Missouri Southern catalog for 1989-1991 to pages four and five. It unequivocally states that it was the faculty of Southern who set forth the goals of the core curriculum, and furthermore that "the curriculum at Missouri Southern is designed in such a manner that these human experiences permeate each class taught at the institution." I have obviously emphasized certain portions of the above statement for dramatic purposes.

The collective goals of the faculty and administration as they have been formulated through the committee structure of Southern are set forth as a number of abilities. They are the abilities to communicate, to solve problems through critical thinking, to clarify

values, to function within social institutions, to stand science and technology, and finally to stand the arts. The sequence in listing is not to be interpreted as a designation of importance that they are prioritized. At least that is my perception, and I hope that they are generally perceived that way.

The overarching concern is to create "a core integrated curriculum of education." An end that combines the extended study in the major and the core curriculum along with other educational experiences found within the writing program, computer literacy requirement, the new intern focus, and other aspects of the curriculum.

In closing, I would like to draw your attention to the quotation by Bok (whom I must confess I identify beyond that) which serves as a preface statement on the core curriculum in the College catalog. It says, "The task of education is to ensure a celebration of the individual, and an understanding of the interdependence of the individual with larger community." The same is true of individual academic subjects which is a point that I try to convey to my students in Art Appreciation classes one which I am sure that my colleagues in the courses try to make as well. Perhaps we are successful.

Owner will continue half price gas policy out of respect

I would like to respond to your editor's column of Sept. 6, 1990. In trying to help you understand the gas and oil market, it is traded daily on the commodities market just like corn, wheat, or similar to stock. Anyone can purchase or sell in a "session." Various news events will affect this market much more than say the stock market.

Most jobbers to obtain the right to brand must agree to purchase a certain amount of gas from who they are branded with, or purchase from an independent supplier who buys on the "spot" market. If a company brands you they expect you to purchase your contract in good or bad times.

When Iraq invaded Kuwaiti, these countries supply 20 percent of the world's oil. The market acted immediately. President Bush intervened and kept him out of Saudi Arabia or he would have gained control of 50 percent of the world's oil.

This is where I take exception to your comments on the fact that "these soldiers are fighting for the whole country." If they hadn't gone in, gas would be costing you \$2.50 to \$3 per gallon if you wanted to wait in line. So they have done our country a great service.

The reason I adopted my policy of half price gas was to show my support for what our President had done and for our troops which have their lives in danger stopping this maniac.

You see I believe we all need to support our troops even if you don't think what they are doing is right because they are in a position that their lives are in danger representing all of us. They don't make the policy; they just enforce it. I sell gasoline to them at half price through their families because of respect for these people that are in the Armed Forces in the Middle East with their lives on the line for all of us. Yes, I think they are "special people." I will continue the program until they are safely back. The way people treated our troops after Vietnam was wrong and won't happen again.

It is my personal opinion that President Bush is going to be the best president that we have seen in the last 100 years. You are indeed living in an exciting time; hopefully we will find world peace.

In closing I would like to share with you how I know what everyone's gas cost is. Take a copy of the *Wall Street Journal* and see what a New York gallon of unleaded regular is. Add on 20

cents federal and state tax. Add on one and a half cents freight to terminal, add on another one cent freight from the terminal to our location, add on another .0035 cents Superfund charge (to help handle future clean-ups) and you will have my cost. If you want to check it take the price of a barrel of oil and multiply by .04. Oh, and gas prices will come down when the Saudi oil fields are no longer in danger. If they are bombed or disrupted we'll have gas lines and rationing.

I hope you don't think five cents or six cents a gallon profit on my end is excessive. If you do, you better talk to your economics professor.

Dave Fagan
Fast Stop

YOUR LETTERS

Please submit "Letters to the Editor" to The Chart office in Hearnes Hall 117 by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition. All letters must be typed or printed neatly, and signed. Letters of fewer than 300 words receive priority consideration.

THE CHART

Five-Star All-American (1982, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989)
Regional Pacemaker Award Winner (1986, 1988, 1989)

The Chart, the official newspaper of Missouri Southern State University, is published weekly, except during holidays and examinations, from August through May, by students in communications as a lab experience. Views expressed do not necessarily represent the views of the administration, the faculty, or the student body.

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Plan may save Soviet reforms

New plan calls for demonopolization of state industry

BY ANATOLY SOBCHACK
LOS ANGELES TIMES SYNDICATE

Editor's note: Anatoly Sobchack is the mayor of Leningrad. Sobchack, Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Republic, and Gavrill Popov, mayor of Moscow, form the troika of top radical reformers in the Soviet Union. As a Leningrad University law professor and delegate to the Supreme Soviet, Sobchack authored key legislation ending the constitutionally sanctioned monopoly of the Communist Party and permitting ownership of private property. After the 28th Party Congress last July, Sobchack, Yeltsin, and Popov resigned from the Communist Party because, they said, "it showed the complete inability to offer the country a real program of transition to a new society."

A market economy cannot be decreed from Moscow. It can only be created from the bottom of society. As long as the bureaucratic apparatus stands between the people and their future, *perestroika* will continue to fail. This has been the core of our long simmering debate with President Mikhail Gorbachev and his Prime Minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov.

But Gorbachev's embrace last week of the new plan proposed by his two economic advisers, Nikolai Petrakov and Stanislav Shatalin, which closely parallels Boris Yeltsin's "500-day program" for the radical transition to a market economy, may have turned the tide and salvaged the reform movement. It shows that Gorbachev has finally sided with the desperate citizenry who had all but lost faith in the prospect of improving their lives.

In order to make room for initiative from below, the new plan calls for radical demonopolization of state industry, selling or leasing to private interests up to 70 percent of Soviet factories and 90 percent of

my wife and I acquired our own apartment in Leningrad.

Following these plans, the entire process of privatization is expected to be completed within two to three years. To accelerate the pace of change, we have declared Leningrad a "free economic zone" in order to attract foreign investment—and ownership—in the new private economy.

After years of upheaval that have produced no results, what we need now above all is a stabilization period for the consumer. In the effort to satisfy the consumer, no resources should be held back, including Russia's gold reserves.

Prime Minister Ryzhkov has warned that the far-reaching changes we propose will generate a backlash because they "infringe upon the vital interests of the working people." But the backlash has already occurred—against the central government. That is why Yeltsin, Popov, and I were elected. That is why Gorbachev was forced to accept the accelerated transition to the market.

The promise of a functioning market economy inspires more hope in the future than it inspires fear of unemployment and loss of security. The old ideology, which promises these things, but delivered stagnation for the masses and privileges for the communist elite, is thoroughly discredited. While the average Soviet citizen has not received any "new ideas," he has more faith in the untried future than in the certain past.

In any event, we are more likely to face a labor shortage than unemployment. The lack of services is so severe and the production of consumer goods so paltry in the Soviet Union that private growth in these sectors can more than absorb the layoffs from manufacturing that will result from cutting subsidies.

Outside of the hundred or so core commodities, all other prices should be regulated by the market. The government should only assist the market by removing subsidies. Today, for example, the government spends more than 70 billion rubles annually to prop up collective farms, yet doesn't reap enough crops to put food on the table. Efficiency would

The communists had 73 years to make our economy fail. We reformers have, by my guess, about two years to make it work.

construction enterprises, wholesale and retail stores, restaurants, and other consumer services such as auto repair or barber shops.

Except for a price freeze on a hundred or so essential goods such as bread, all other prices would be deregulated. (The government wants to double the price of bread.) The Shatalin plan would also slash defense spending and massive subsidies that have propped up the inefficient sectors of Soviet industry and agriculture.

Perhaps most importantly, the new plan would grant each Soviet republic economic sovereignty—the "exclusive right" to regulate ownership, use, and management of all wealth and resource within its territory.

In the Russian Republic (which has already formally adopted the Shatalin plan), we are also encouraging the return of all Russians from Middle Asian republics, the Caucasus and elsewhere, giving them homesteading land as we liquidate state farms. We believe this "rebirth of Russia" is the only thing that will turn around our agricultural disaster. Housing is also being transferred to private individuals. In fact, in July

be served by ending those subsidies; the money should be given directly to the poor and to young families with the children who need food assistance.

The best way for the West to assist the privatization of the Soviet economy is direct investment with particular individuals and in specific enterprises and projects. And there should be direct western participation and oversight in commercial enterprises and projects so that they are kept honest and operate solely on the basis of economic criteria.

Soviet society does not need more heroic steel plants, hydroelectric stations, or the Promethean diversion of rivers. People need to be able to stroll down Kalinin Prospect in Moscow or Nevsky Prospect in Leningrad and see that an American store selling sportswear has just opened, or an Italian shop selling sweaters, or a French shop selling wine and cheese. These would be tangible signs that real change is afoot at last.

The communists had 73 years to make our economy fail. We reformers have, by my guess, about two years to make it work.

BY T.R. HANRAHAN
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gulf crisis coverage is inflated

As a member of the media, I find the present coverage of the crisis in the Persian Gulf a bit much. While these events do warrant in-depth reporting and examination, this coverage ought to augment, rather than replace, attention given other significant world happenings.

Every news show, local or national, seems to lead with the Persian Gulf story and then begin to beat the proverbial dead horse. The crisis is a lead story, but the tendency of news organizations to focus the entire newscast, or news pages, around the subject has gotten out of hand. We are given not only the

EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

Tropical Storms

Typhoon Flo, the most powerful to strike Japan since 1971, killed at least 29 people during a rampage from remote Okinawa to northernmost Hokkaido Island. Landslides and floods triggered by torrential rain left a swath of damage in 39 prefectures, including the capital, Tokyo. Air and rail services were suspended due to the strong winds.

Radio Hanoi reported that typhoon Ed submerged roads and swept away large numbers of homes in the central Vietnam provinces of Thua Thien and Quang Tri. No specific casualty figures were given. Before reaching Vietnam, the storm lashed China's Hainan Island, where several typhoons earlier this summer have killed hundreds of people and destroyed most crops.

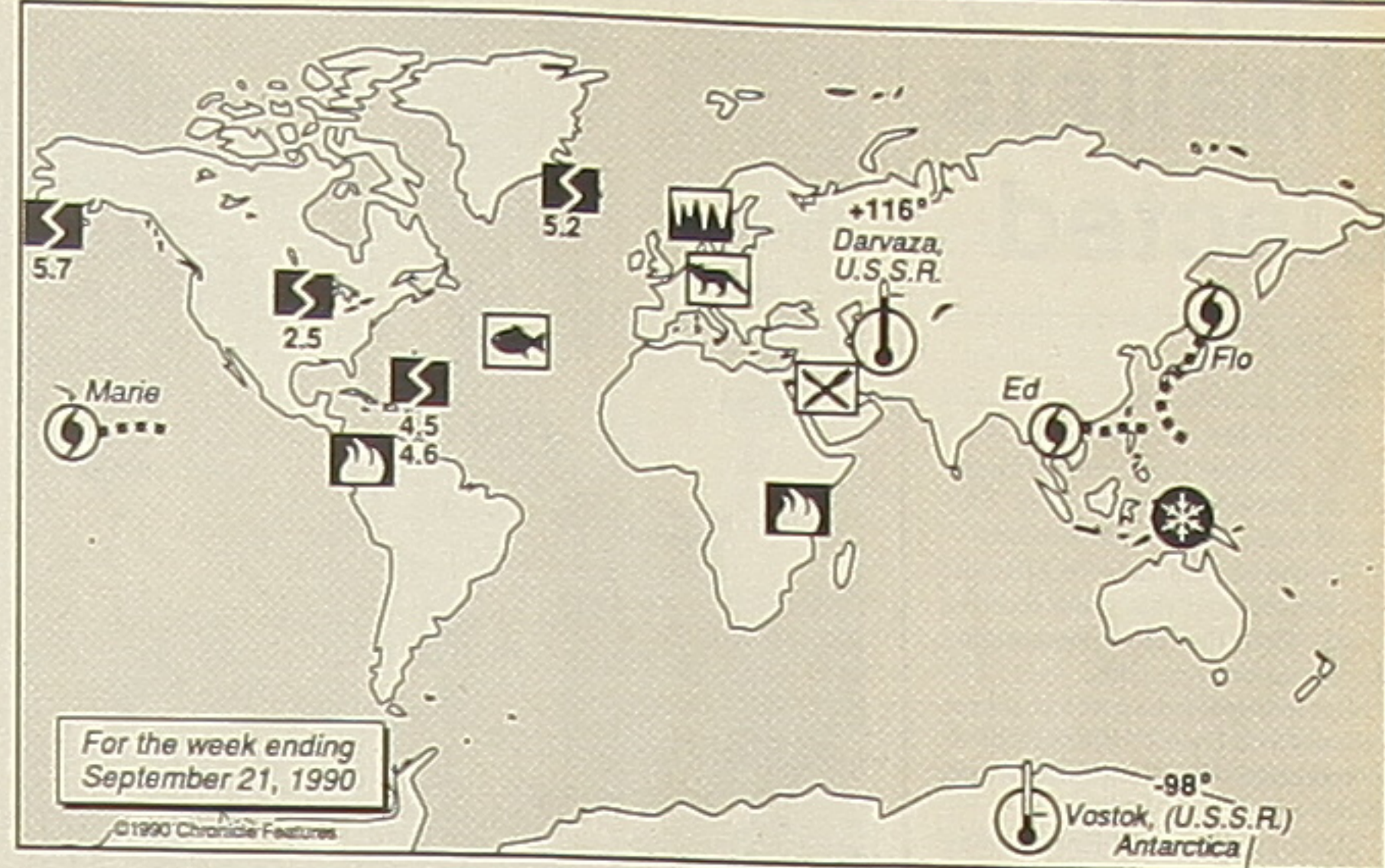
Hurricane Marie sent high surf pounding onto southern shores of the Hawaiian Islands as it passed well to the south of the Big Island.

Growing Glaciers

Glaciers have begun to creep down mountains in Norway, growing larger, in an apparent contradiction to global warming predictions. But Professor Olav Orheim, head of the Antarctic Section at the Norwegian Polar Research Institute in Oslo, believes that greenhouse effect theories have largely ignored certain side effects of higher temperatures—such as more snow in some locations. "In western Norway, all small glaciers, which respond quickly to climate change, are now advancing."

Rabid Foxes

The razing of the Berlin Wall, and the removal of snarling guard dogs that patrolled it, have resulted in an invasion of 37 rabid foxes into West Berlin. About 10 people have been bitten so far, according to Health Department spokesman Thomas-Peter Gallon. "The fall of the borders



with East Germany led not only to people moving freely, but foxes too," Gallon said. "Before, rabies had been virtually wiped out."

Tropical Snowstorm

A sudden snowstorm killed 42 people as it struck eastern Indonesia's Jayawijaya mountain range. Many of the victims died in two remote villages from cold and hunger after their sweet potato crops rotted because of the snow.

Healthful Victim

Fisheries experts told the U.S. Congress that growing demand for swordfish, a tasty seafood favored by the health-conscious, is decimating the species. William Fox, assistant administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said that "the resource is clearly overfished, and the situation has become significantly worse during the past five years." Protecting sword-

fish stocks is complicated because the species has a large migratory range, and is highly prized by both foreign and domestic fishermen.

Wildfires

Fires devastated vast tracts of forest and scrubland in Tanzania and Kenyan national parks. One of the largest blazes destroyed thousands of acres of vegetation in southern Kenya's Tsavo National Park, where thousands of animals were seen fleeing the fire storm.

Five hundred firemen fought wildfires which ravaged about 2,000 acres of oak forest and threatened central Colombia's historic colonial town of Villa de Leyva.

Earthquakes

Two moderate earthquakes shook the northeast Caribbean within minutes of each other from an epicenter between the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico. Earth movements were also felt in the Aleutian Islands, Iceland and eastern Oklahoma.

Zoo Food

Iraqi soldiers have eaten nearly all of the edible species at the Kuwait City Zoo, according to London's World Society for the Protection of Animals. Spokesman Victor Watkins said that antelope and deer had topped the list of eaten animals, and some of the rarest species had been shipped to Baghdad. Forty zookeepers, mainly Asian immigrants, had worked at the complex before the invasion and annexation of Kuwait last month by Iraq. All fled the country, leaving the animals unattended. Watkins said the zoo housed 208 mammals, 493 birds and 34 reptiles, but now "they have no water, no food and they likely will be dying."

Additional Sources: U.S. Climate Analysis Center, U.S. Earthquake Information Center, and the World Meteorological Organization.

Japan unfreezes loan package to China

ASAHI NEWS SERVICE

TOKYO—Japanese companies expect that the unfreezing of an \$10 billion yen (\$5.79 billion) loan package to China will improve business ties with their huge neighbor.

Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, who was in Beijing to attend the opening ceremony of the Asian Games, officially informed Chinese Premier Li Peng Sept. 20 of the government's decision to resume the loan program.

Japan had frozen the \$10 billion yen credit it promised to China in 1988, as part of coordinated sanctions by Western allies to protest the Beijing government's June 1989 crackdown on democracy demonstrators. "Unfreezing the loan package will

give a lift to the Chinese economy, as 42 industrial development projects are to go ahead in many parts of China," said Kazuo Haruna, chairman of Marubeni Corp.

"If Japanese investment in China gains momentum, the countries now advocating continued economic sanctions will follow our lead, otherwise they will be left behind," he said. "Even the United States will probably change its attitude after the off-year elections. Japan's decision will have far-reaching influence."

Under pressure from the government in the wake of the Tiananmen Square massacre, Japanese corporations have done less business with China in the past year.

Between January and June, direct investment by Japanese companies in China was \$110 million, down 52

percent from the same period last year. Imports and exports combined stood at \$7.8 billion, down 20.3 percent, according to the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade, which works closely with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Following the government decision to unfreeze the loan package, big enterprises can persuade themselves that it may be safe to go ahead with their projects in China," said Isao Okubo, an official in charge of China at the Bank of Tokyo.

NEC Corp. has already revealed renewed interest in China. It announced Sept. 20 that it has agreed with Chinese partners to set up joint ventures in China to produce semiconductors and telephone switchboards. Japan's leading computer and tel-

communications equipment maker had been discussing the projects since 1988, but the talks were stalled due to China's bloody suppression of democracy-seeking students and citizens.

"Big enterprises are counting on the Japanese government to give the green light to finances by government-related and commercial banks to Chinese projects," said Okubo.

Mitsubishi Corp. and C. Itoh & Co., two of Japan's largest trading firms, and the Industrial Bank of Japan, the top long-term credit bank, decided last month to enter in talks with China on a 300 billion yen (\$2.14 billion) industrial park development project in Dairen. The Chinese city has been asking the Japanese government for assistance since 1988.

Brooke, Hume face opposition from Unionists

THE ECONOMIST

As preparations went ahead last week in London, Belfast, and Dublin for the first full meeting since July of the inter-governmental conference—called for Sept. 14 in Dublin, under the aegis of the Anglo-Irish agreement—politicians and officials were still uncertain of the answer to a question that grows more pressing by the day: can Peter Brooke, secretary of state for Northern Ireland, pick up where he left off two months ago?

Brooke had hoped to make a bit of a splash in the House of Commons on July 5. He was all set to announce a formula for talks to begin between representatives of all four main parties in Northern Ireland and of the governments in Dublin and London. He had to abort this plan—largely, it seems, because he could not clinch the terms of Dublin's role in the talks. Had he proposed a firm date

for Dublin to sit down to talk, the Unionists of the North would almost certainly have backed off. When he instead proposed a vague point of entry, it was the Irish government and the de facto leader of the nationalists in the North, John Hume, who turned away.

Time is now precious for Brooke, because any delay in resuming the talks-about-talks could result in an outbreak of recriminations on all sides over the failure of the process. Already, Unionist leaders and some of Brooke's own officials have begun to blame Dublin and the nationalists.

It could emerge that Brooke simply stumbled by placing too much weight on his Commons speech as an artificial deadline. Dublin never much liked it; perhaps the deadline left no time for last-minute adjustments that could now be made. Or it could become apparent that, far from drawing the Unionist and nationalist leaders to the edge of a historic agreement, Brooke by July

had drawn them only to the edge of a profound gulf—where they now stand staring at each other from either side, as they have so often before. The outcome seems more and more pegged to the issue of Dublin's importance to any future talks.

In the rejected draft of his July 5 speech, Brooke proposed that Unionists would meet Irish ministers to discuss the relationship between a new Northern Ireland administration and Dublin—but only as members of a United Kingdom team, and only when "substantial progress" had been made in inter-party talks on arrangements for the government of Northern Ireland. To Hume and Dublin, this threatened to provide the Unionists with an endless excuse to put off discussions with the South.

So Brooke left the bit about "substantial progress" out of his actual speech. Then, in mid-July, he produced an amended text as the basis for further discussion. The sugges-

tion that Irish involvement must wait for an accommodation between the political parties in Northern Ireland was still there—with the additional idea that he himself would lead the Unionists in a United Kingdom team into any talks with Dublin.

Meanwhile Hume has been busy with proposals of his own. In a version of Brooke's re-draft, he simplified the scheme for talks to cover all the essential relations—those with Northern Ireland, those between North and South, and those between Westminster and Dublin (a three-fold approach originally mooted by Hume himself). Northern Ireland parties would participate in the first and second, the Irish government would of course be involved "centrally" in the second and third.

The Unionists have not accepted Hume's proposals—and it seems their chief objection has been his omission of the "substantial progress" precondition for any talks between politicians from the North and South.

MY VIEWPOINT

latest hard news from the Middle East, we are force-fed commentary from retired officials such as Navy Admiral William Crowe and former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, who give their views on everything from the effectiveness of American troops against the Iraqis to the types of bottled water provided the U.S. soldiers.

I exaggerate to make a point; the American media need to remember that the world does not begin and end at the borders of the Middle East. Shooting has not even begun and already the media is reviewing the possible military scenarios.

Thus far, the world community is faced with a difficult situation which may or may not be ended with diplomacy. Yet the newpeople of this nation have treated this as if a state of war already existed. I am reminded of a line from *Citizen Kane*, but often attributed to William Randolph Hearst. Charles Foster Kane, publisher of a large newspaper, tells his reporter not to worry about a lack of fighting. He says, "You provide the pictures, and I'll provide the war."

As journalists salivate at the potential copy a military conflict would provide, important stories with far-reaching impact are given low priority and shallow coverage.

In South Africa, violence between factions of blacks vying for power in

the coming post-apartheid era has killed 800 since August.

On Monday, the Soviet parliament voted overwhelmingly to give sweeping new powers to President Mikhail Gorbachev. Gorbachev has been given 18 months to transform the centrally controlled Soviet economy into a working, market-oriented system.

Here in the United States, the White House and Congress are deadlocked in budget negotiations. House Republicans are resisting income tax hikes in exchange for a capital gains cut, and Democrats have begun preparations on a stop-gap spending bill to delay large, automatic cuts.

Tuesday's issue of *USA Today* addressed the story on the increase in Gorbachev's power with a short,

one-column item on page one. The South African developments and the budget impasse were covered with one story each on page four. The Persian Gulf crisis, by comparison, received more than twice the coverage with the lead story and a secondary story on page one, an index to coverage on page three, two stories on page four, the entire "Inquiry" section on page 11, and a related lead story on oil futures in the "Money" section.

I am in no way saying that the crisis in the Persian Gulf is not the major story affecting the nation. What the media need to remember, however, is that there are other events shaping our lives and these also deserve thorough, balanced coverage.

Royalty finalists elected

BY CHRIS COX
CAMPUS EDITOR

After last week's preliminary election, Homecoming royalty candidates have been narrowed from 22 to eight finalists.

For the second time in Missouri Southern history, this group includes a male, Shah Rukh Rais, representing the Social Science Club.

The first male student to become a finalist was Dave Griffith, in 1984, representing the Communications Club.

The list of this year's Homecoming finalists and their sponsors includes Elivette Alvarez, RHA; Cheryl Chapman, Phi Beta Lambda; Lori Clevenger, Modern Communications Club; Kimberly Hoffman, Zeta Tau Alpha; Sara Hoover, Student Nurses Association; Melissa Pim, Kappa Alpha; Inger Stockam, cheerleaders; and Rais.

According to Val Carlisle, director of student activities, a king and a queen may be elected next year.

"People from habit call it 'Homecoming queen,'" said Carlisle. "It would be nice to have a king and queen run. It would get rid of a lot of confusion and be less of a competition."

Final elections for Homecoming royalty end at 2 p.m. today.

Displays, instead of banners, will be used to promote the royalty candidates. Lisa West, student coordinator for Homecoming, said this will increase awareness.

"We want people to drive down Newman [Road], seeing what is going on," she said. "Last year people hardly even knew there was a Homecoming."

Rehearsal for a talent show will start at 3 p.m. tomorrow, and the show will be held in the Connor Ballroom at 7 p.m. Monday.

"There will be comedians, musical skits, singing, and videos," said West. "It's looking pretty good so far."

Northpark Mall will host the royalty candidates in a fashion show. The show will feature clothes from various stores in the mall. Football players will escort the women in the J.C. Penney's court, and Rais will be escorted by his fiancée.

West said her job has been easier this year because of the cooperation she has received from everyone involved in Homecoming activities.

"This is the best participation we've had in 10 years," she said.

A spirit bonfire will commence at 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 4, on the north side of Fred Hughes Stadium. Various floats will participate in the downtown Homecoming Parade on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 10 a.m.

The annual all-campus cookout will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 5 on the Billingsly Student Center lawn. It will include an Oktoberfest style lunch, including sausage, potatoes, and rootbeer served from steins.

The Homecoming queen will be announced at noon.

MAKING THE DIFFICULT LOOK EASY



Jack White, a visiting billiards trick-shot artist, prepares to display the skill that has brought him to Southern 16 times. White was in the Lions' Den Monday for an exhibition.

Edison laughs at technology

New York City native specializes in 'state of the art' comedy

BY LORENA BATES
STAFF WRITER

Laughter is the best way to deal with technology, according to Dave Edison.

The comedian will perform at 7 p.m. Wednesday on the second-floor lounge of the Billingsly Student Center. Admission is free.

Edison specializes in "state of the art" comedy. He pokes fun at today's technology, calling it "absurd."

Although originally from New York, Edison now lives in Los Angeles.

He has appeared on shows such as *The Late Show with Joan Rivers*, *Comic Strip Live*, *Norman's Corner*, *Ross Shaeffer*, and *Everyday with Joan Lunden*.

"Edison is part of a package deal from Kramer/Magnan Entertainment Agency," said Val Carlisle, director of student activities.

"Kramer has sent us *In All Seriousness*, who performed last Friday as part of the same deal," she said. "Our turnout was over 100. Most of our entertainment this year will be along the comedy line."

Carlisle said she believes more people attend comedy acts because comedy is more "universal."

"People are afraid the music featured will not be to their taste," she said.

Some of the other entertainment for the year will be *Totally Interactive Video*, *Craig Anton*, *Stewart and Lori*, and *We Can Make You Laugh*. All of these performers are part of the same deal that includes Edison.

According to Carlisle, Edison will receive \$1,250 to perform.

Club schedules first rodeo by soccer field

NIRA to include Rodeo Club as member

BY JAN GARDNER
STAFF WRITER

Plans for an upcoming rodeo are underway and are keeping members of Missouri Southern's new Rodeo Club busy.

Southern's first rodeo is scheduled for Oct. 25, on the field south of Taylor Hall. Three schools—Southwest Missouri State University, Fort Scott (Kan.) Community College, and another not yet selected—will be invited.

Brore (horseback) riding, bull riding, and barrel racing will make up the featured events in the exhibition. Prizes will be awarded based on money received from entry fees.

"Only college-enrolled people can participate," said Wayne Stebbins, associate professor of biology, who is serving as the faculty adviser. "The main goal is to promote interest in rodeo."

However, the Rodeo Club is not geared only toward college students.

"It's all-student oriented, but anybody from the community can come," said Sandy Branstetter, freshman, and member of the Rodeo Club.

In 1991, Southern's Rodeo Club will become a member of the NIRA (National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association). According to Ed Belveal, freshman and club president, membership guarantees many benefits that will greatly improve the status of the club.

"It will allow a team to travel to colleges all over the U.S.," Belveal said. "We can also set up a scholarship program for people who want to compete."

Livestock for rodeos are provided by stock contractors, from across the central United States, who offer for the job. The club has not yet made a decision about which contractor to use.

Belveal said the offers are running close to \$2,000 a day. After membership in NIRA is achieved, the national organization will provide the needed stock through one of its own stock contractors.

Southern also has to provide panels necessary to form the rodeo. The Rodeo Club was officially started last year but, according to Stebbins, all it did was "get organized." He said members hope to be much more active in the future.

"We want to have a complete rodeo next spring and a full rodeo next fall," he said.

Stebbins said several people contacted him about the club. He expects a larger showing at coming meetings, which are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

An exact time for the October rodeo will be announced at a later date, but Belveal said it will be during the afternoon. Students interested in the rodeo may contact Stebbins at Ext. 534.

Psychology Club to host events

Members to participate in Fechner Day, trips, and lectures

BY PAUL HOOD
STAFF WRITER

One activity in which members of the Psychology Club are most visible is running the concession stand at home football games.

The club has existed since 1978 and is open to anyone with an interest in psychology. Presently, the club has approximately 30 members. Meetings are held at noon every Wednesday in Taylor Hall Room 121.

Members decide the activities for the club each year. Officers have been elected, and some events have already been planned.

"We plan to have many speakers this year from area mental health agencies," said Lynn Sweet, president of the club.

The club already has hosted a discussion on the differences between counseling and clinical psychology and on the cultural differences between China and the United States.

During meetings and events the Psychology Club works closely with Psi Chi, the national honorary society for psychology.

"Psi Chi has separate officers, but the two clubs meet and work together," said Dr. Brian Babbitt, professor of psychology. Babbitt and Betsy Griffin serve as faculty advisers for the club.

visers for the club.

In October, the club is planning Fechner Day to honor Gustav Theodor Fechner, a German physicist and philosopher. Fechner has been noted as instrumental to the early development of psychology. As part of the festivities, members of the Psychology Club plan to put up displays on the history of psychology, have a picnic, and socialize.

Members are planning a trip to Springfield to visit the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in the Psychology Club may contact Babbitt or Griffin at Ext. 315.

Upcoming Events

27

THURSDAY

Homecoming Final Election: stairwell of BSC, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Wesley Foundation: Room 314 BSC, 11 a.m.

LDSSA: Room 314 BSC, Noon

Modern Communications Club: Room 314 BSC, 1 p.m.

Faculty Colloquium: Informal presentation by Dr. William Kumbler, Room 313 BSC, 3 p.m.

College Republicans: Room 311 BSC, 3 p.m.

Bicycle Club: front of BSC, 5:30 p.m.

International Pizza Party: Connor Ballroom, 6 p.m.

Computer Science Dinner: Room 310 BSC, 6 p.m.

28

FRIDAY

Talent Show Rehearsal: Connor Ballroom BSC, 3 p.m.

29

SATURDAY

Cross Country: at Oklahoma State Jamboree, TBA

Lions Football: at Northeast Missouri State, 1:30 p.m.

30

SUNDAY

Lions Soccer: vs. St. Mary of the Plains, Noon

1

MONDAY

ECM: Room 311 BSC, Noon

Faculty Senate: Room 313 BSC, 3 p.m.

Career Is Right: Room 310 BSC, 3 p.m.

Sigma Nu: Room 313 BSC, 5 p.m.

Homecoming Talent Show: Connor Ballroom, 7:30 p.m.

2

TUESDAY

BSU: Room 314 BSC, 11 a.m.

Newman Club: Room 310 BSC, Noon

International Club: Room 313 BSC, 3 p.m.

Homecoming Fashion Show: Northpark Mall, J.C. Penney's Court, 7 p.m.

3

WEDNESDAY

Philosophy Club: Room 121 Taylor Hall, Noon

CAB meeting: Room 310 BSC, 3 p.m.

Soccer: at University of Missouri-Kansas City, 4 p.m.

Student Senate: Room 310 BSC, 5:30 p.m.

CAB Event: comedian Dave Edison, second-floor lounge BSC, 7 p.m.



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✓ 82nd Airborne Division: APO New York 09656

✓ 24th Mechanized Infantry Division: APO New York 09315

✓ 1st Corps Support Command Fort Bragg: APO New York 09656

✓ 197th Infantry Brigade: APO New York 09315

✓ 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade: APO New York 09656

✓ 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment: APO New York 0920

Letters will be handled out at random unless soldier's name is specified.

Hobby is future for art major

BY DYANA PERKINS
STAFF WRITER

Most Missouri Southern students are in college to prepare themselves for the future. Charles Stephens, senior art major, is attending college as a result of his past.

Stephens, 35, began his college education at Southern in 1986. After returning to his hometown of Joplin from a nine-year term in the Army, he worked as a machinist in Webb City to support his four children. As a result of an injury on the job, however, Stephens was laid off.

"While working I managed to get my hand caught in a hydraulic punch which flattened my forefinger," said Stephens. "That's when I decided to go back to school."

According to Stephens, one of his motives for pursuing a college career was not only personal, but to insure a better life for his family.

"I'm here for myself because it's something I want to do," Stephens said. "But, more importantly, I'm here so I can offer my kids a better life after I graduate."

Stephens' life in the Army took him to various places, including a year-and-one-half-stint in Germany. But, during that time, from early childhood to the present, he has maintained a hobby that he now hopes to build a future on.

"I've been painting and drawing since I was five," said Stephens. "My mother was worried about my overactive imagination and introduced me to finger painting as a way to deal with it. Since then it's always been a part of my life."

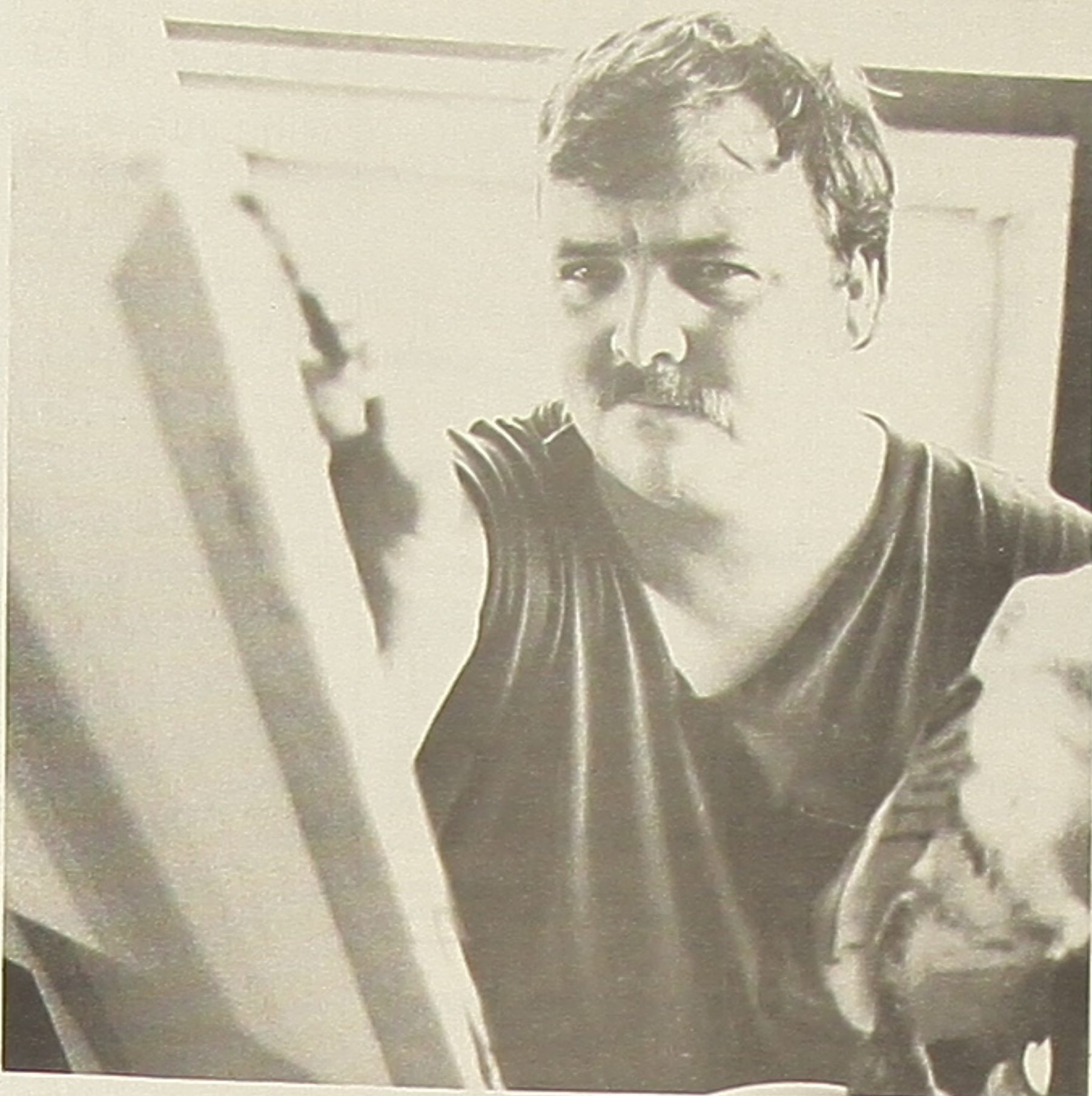
Stephens is the president of Art League. He has had his artwork displayed both on campus and off-campus. He also submits his material to the campus literary magazine *The Winged Lion*.

Stephens said he has been selling art work since high school.

"The price of my work varies. I've sold stuff for \$25 on up to \$300," Stephens said he has been called the last of the great romantics because of his passion for his art.

"I couldn't do my art if I didn't feel deeply about it," he said. "Any form of art is emotional. An artist must have imagination and be sensitive not only to who he is, but also to the surrounding environment." Stephens hopes to pursue a career in the commercial art field.

THE FINAL STROKE



Charles Stephens, senior art major, works on a current project which incorporates aspects of Indian Art.

STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS COX

Southern Theatre presents fine first showing

BY ANGIE STEVENSON
MANAGING EDITOR

Rating: ★★ ★★
(out of ★★★★★)



While *The Menaechmi* did not quite live up to its promise of "a laugh guaranteed every 90 seconds," it did provide some lively performances with a chuckle stashed here and there.

Southern Theatre's rendition of Plautus' once original mistaken identity farce was, for the most part, well performed and easy to sit through.

The action revolves around two brothers, both known as Menaechmus, who were separated at birth. Menaechmus of Syracuse travels in search of his brother to Epidamnus, described by the play's program as "a pimple on the backside of Rome."

Once there, he finds himself caught up in circles of confusion as various

townspeople—Erotica, his brother's mistress; Sponge, a local moocher; and Biferia, his brother's wife—mistake him for Menaechmus of Epidamnus. Just when the audience begins to believe the misunderstanding will never be resolved, Plautus pulls everything together in one neat bow.

The Menaechmi was laced with contemporary humor, compliments of director Duane Hunt. While one might think referrals to Nike and Adidas (even the scenery boasted graffiti reading "Just doeth it") and lines such as "it's just a gig" would be out of place in a Roman day setting, the nature of the play is such that not only did the quips fit right in, but actually added to the farce.

Another positive and unique feature of the play was the masks worn by all of the actors but one. This was helpful in taking the focus from the actor and placing it on the character, creating for the audience a willing

suspension of disbelief. To the credit of costume designer Anne Jaros, the masks conveyed good expression and did not cover the actor's mouths, leaving the dialogue clear and easy to understand.

While all of the acting was at least adequate, a few performances outshined the others. Todd Webber gave the performance of a well-seasoned actor in his portrayal of Menaechmus of Syracuse. As is often the case, everybody loves a clown, and the audience loved Brett McDowell in the best performance of the play as Messing, Menaechmus of Syracuse's slave. Webber and McDowell kept the comedy going, but weren't on stage every 90 seconds.

As comic relief for the duo, Georgina Small in her small role as Roll, Erotica's slave, left the audience in stitches, and Sam Claussen provided antics as Lichus, Menaechmus of Epidamnus' father-in-law.

Heather Haar's portrayal of Ero-

tica was complementary to the character, as was William Watts' Sponge, and Diana Gaines' Biferia.

David Swenson's performance as Menaechmus of Epidamnus was sufficient but often overshadowed by Webber's dynamic character and talent. Van Fredrickson in his unmasked role of an actor faced the task of orienting the audience to the nature of the play with a few jokes that missed, but redeemed himself with a few charming anecdotes that hit.

Fredrickson was charged with triple duty as he also portrayed a doctor and a slave, coaxing some laughter from the audience when he waved from behind his mask as he promised in his prologue speech.

Although the play is not a musical, Brandi Backer, Jennifer L. Carroll, and Mark Robertson performed two tunes to kick the play off and provided background music for three vocal pieces. Swenson's solo "Filling

beautiful and enjoyable it is."

The series begins Oct. 29 with a performance by the Los Angeles Piano Quartet.

"They are just one of the finest piano quartets in the country," said Schwab. "We are very fortunate to open the season series with them."

The Castel Trio, members of the Smithsonian Chamber players, will perform a piano concert Dec. 3.

The new year will begin on Jan. 15 with a concert by the Sibelius Quartet, made up of faculty members from the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki, Finland.

On April 12, sisters Cynthia and Renee Siebert will present a piano and flute Mozart program in honor of the 200th anniversary of Mozart's death.

"Cynthia is from Kansas City where she is director of the Friends of the Chamber Music and very prominent in the arts," said Schwab. "Renee is a flutist with the New York Philharmonic."

Calliope, a small group who plays Renaissance music, will give the final concert in the St. Philip's series on April 22.

Pro-Musica also is involved with taking music into the Joplin school system. The St. Louis Brass Quintet will perform for the schools in October.

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Coming Attractions

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"The Changing Landscape": Selections from the United Missouri Bank collection. On view thru Oct. 21, Open 10 a.m. thru 4 p.m. Tuesday thru Saturday, Spiva Art Center, 623-0183
Howee Crafts: Oct. 6 and 7, John Q. Hammons Trade Center

SPRINGFIELD

"American Beadwork": From the Deaderick Collection, Features Sioux, Cheyenne, and Blackfoot moccasins as well as umbilical cord amulets, Thru Oct. 7, Springfield Art Museum's Weisel Gallery, 866-2716

"Affinity with Nature": Twenty-five unique interpretations of the landscape in a variety of print-making media and styles, includes works featuring Adirondack Mountains, Midwest farmlands, the Southwest, the California coast, and Alaska, thru Oct. 21, Springfield Art Museum's Auditorium Gallery, 866-2716
"Another Antigone": Wednesday thru Oct. 7, Southwest Missouri State University, 836-5979

Art Exhibit: Paper art by Meredith Dean and Dennis Olsen, glass art by Vernon Brejcha and David Hershey, and clay art by Malcolm Kucharski, 10 a.m. thru 5 p.m. Tuesdays thru Fridays, 11 a.m. thru 3 p.m. Saturdays, Thru Oct. 4, 864-7877

"Nonsense": Thru Sunday, Springfield Little Theatre, Tickets: \$8.50 and \$5.50, 869-1334

TULSA

A Sixties Reunion: Featuring Gary Lewis and the Playboys, The Shadows of Knight, Billy J. Kramer, and Gallery, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., Tomorrow, Cabaret Theatre, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

Marty Stuart: 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Tomorrow and Saturday, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

Bill Davis: With the Bill Davis Band, Tomorrow thru Sunday, Oct. 5-7, Spotlight Stage, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

The Judds: With the Charlie Daniels Band and Sawyer Brown, 7 p.m., Sunday, County Stadium, Tulsa State Fair, Tickets: \$17.75, 918-747-0001

"It's Only a Play": It's opening night, and a wealthy producer is throwing a party in her lavish Manhattan townhouse complete with celebrities, Thru Sunday, Williams Theatre, Tulsa Performing Arts Center, 918-587-8402

Girls Next Door: 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., Sunday, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

Starlight Express: An Andrew Lloyd Webber musical, Thru Sunday, Tulsa Performing Arts Center, 918-596-7111

Herman's Hermits: 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., Wednesday and Oct. 4, Cabaret Theatre, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

Billy Hill: 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Oct. 5 and 6, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

Elvis Wade: 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Oct. 5, Tulsa State Fair, 918-747-0001

KANSAS CITY

"Shear Madness": 8 p.m. Wednesdays thru Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, Thru Sunday, American Heartland Theatre Stage Two, Westin Crown Center Hotel, 816-842-9999

"Blithe Spirit": 8 p.m. Tuesdays thru Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, Thru Sunday, American Heartland Theatre, Crown Center level 3, 842-9999

"Rigoletto": Lyric Opera, 7:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Oct. 5, Music Hall, 816-471-7344

"A Moon for the Misbegotten": Tuesdays thru Saturdays, 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., Oct. 2-21, Missouri Repertory Theatre, 816-235-2700

Matt Haimovitz: Cellist, 8 p.m., Oct. 4, Folly Theater, 781-8250

"Dracula—First Blood": Thursdays thru Saturdays, 7:30 p.m., Sundays, 3:30 p.m., Oct. 4-28, Martin City Melodrama, 816-942-7576

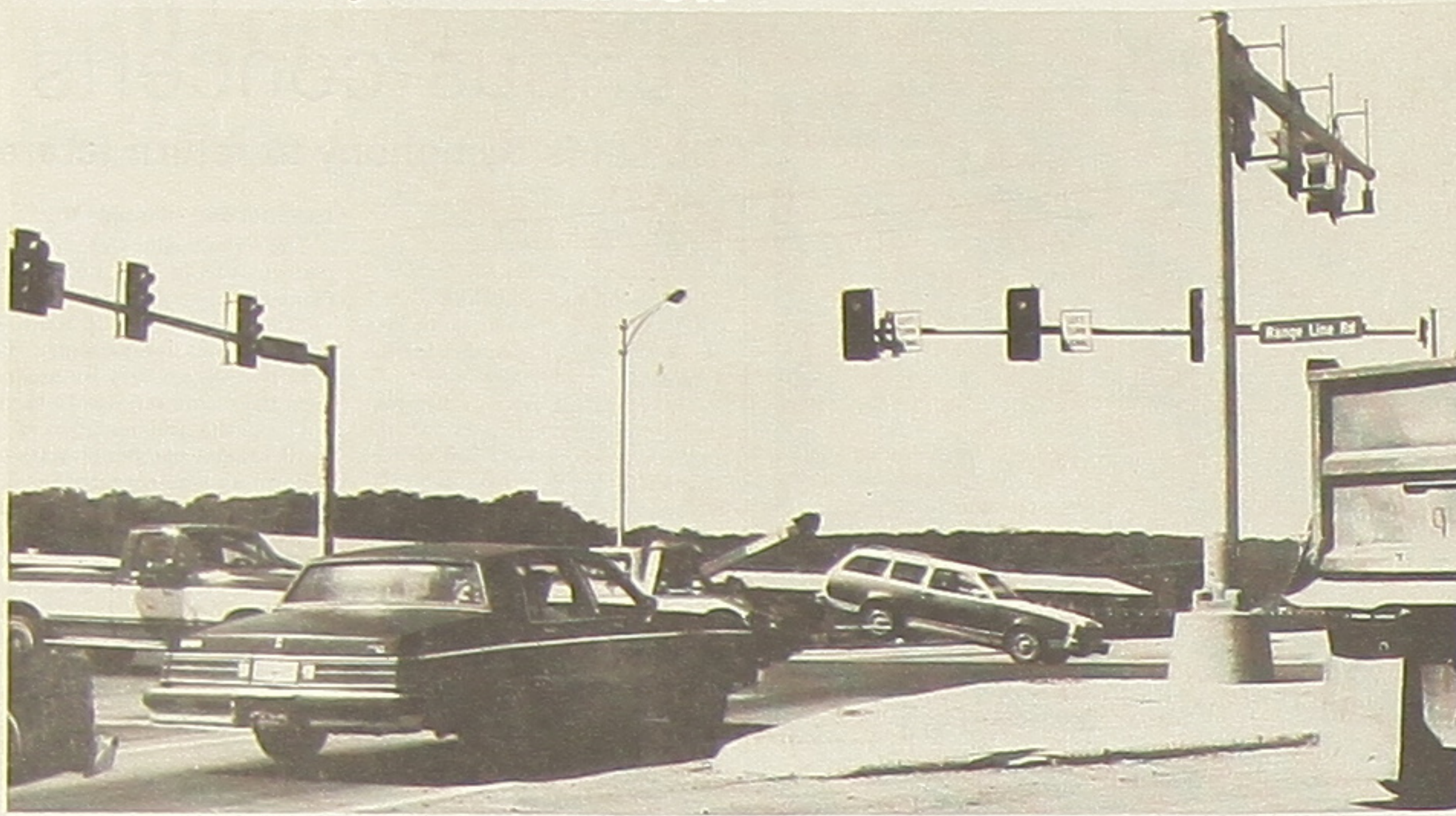
ST. LOUIS

"Country's Good": Thru Oct. 5, Repertory Theatre, 968-4925

Sam Kinison: With MTV's Totally Pauly, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, The Fox, Tickets: \$16.50 and \$18.50, 534-1111

Art Exhibit: Beryl and Mandy Martin, mother and daughter team from Australia, will feature their art forms, including oil landscapes and watercolor florals. Saturday thru Oct. 28, Spink Pavilion, Missouri Botanical Garden, 314-577-5124

ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER TOW



The intersection of Newman and Range Line Roads ranks as one of Joplin's nine most accident-prone. Five of the nine are along Range Line. Others are at Seventh, 15th, 20th, and 32nd streets. Improvements have included resurfacing and increasing lanes at trouble spots.

STAFF PHOTO BY KAYLEA HUTSON

Range Line leads city danger list

Nine intersections plague motorists

BY CARINE PETERSON
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR

When driving to and from work or to 8 a.m. classes, students may encounter one or even many of the nine most dangerous intersections in Joplin.

Five of the danger spots are located where Newman, Seventh, 15th, 20th, and 32nd intersect Range Line. The other four are at 20th and Joplin, 10th and Main, Fourth and Florida, and St. Louis and Zora.

These intersections were determined by a report prepared by Johnson Brickell Mulcahy and Associates. The Joplin Urban Area Transportation Planning Study of 1989, also known as the 2010 Transportation Plan, is based on accidents which occurred from 1985-87. These intersections are defined by the daily entry volume, rated by the number of accidents per million vehicles entering the premises.

According to David Hertzberg, civil engineer of Joplin, there are changes that have and are being made to help correct these intersections. The intersection at 10th and Main had an overhead mast arm installed so the lights would be easier to see. Trees have been cut at St. Louis and Zora, and a four-way stop sign is being added. Range Line has all new overlay, and the intersection of 20th and Joplin now has five lanes instead of three.

Hertzberg said the city is proposing installation of a bypass on Range Line, east of town. All Range Line intersections are state intersections.

Cost incurred from these repairs on the intersections are paid for out of the transportation sales tax.

"We can only do the repairs that we have the money for," Hertzberg said.

Sgt. Steve Rogers of the Joplin Police Department said it constantly charts the number of accidents occurring in Joplin. The hours, days, and the time of year are among the

Joplin's most dangerous intersections

- Newman & Range Line
- 4th & Flora
- 7th & Range Line
- 10th & Main
- 15th & Range Line
- 20th & Range Line
- 20th & Joplin
- 32nd & Range Line
- St. Louis & Zora

Union Depot renovation 'down the tubes'

BY CARINE PETERSON
EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR

Despite allegations that restoration of the Joplin Union Depot is at a standstill, the building's owner still plans to complete the project.

Ted Tankersley, chief building inspector of Joplin, said the entire renovation is "down the tubes" as far as he knows and the building will revert to its original condition if progress is not made in the near future.

"The building could be used," he said, "but it needs extensive repair." According to Tankersley, if no action is taken, sooner or later the issue will be taken before the city board of appeals. Demolition of the building will be requested.

Nancy Allman, the building's

owner, contends there is work being done on the renovation. Apparently, Craig McKenney, owner of MCM Restoration in Fort Scott, Kan., is continuing with the restoration process. McKenney has worked on projects such as the State Capitol in Jefferson City and now is involved in the River Quay projects on the Missouri River.

According to Allman, original completion of the building would have been March 1990, but two lawsuits caused the delay. A final completion date is unknown.

David Glenn, president of Glenn Construction, filed suit for \$40,503 against Allman "strictly because of nonpayment." He said bills have not been paid since May 1989.

Allman contends Glenn Construction did in excess of \$1 million dam-

ages. She said an expert historic appraiser from Kansas has directly attributed damages to the company.

Allman is basing the damages on video footage taken before restoration in accordance with U.S. Department of Interior requirements.

Allman, who is suing for \$11.4 million, and Glenn Construction have already gone to court and are still in an "ongoing process." The \$11.4 million is to cover damages, interest incurred, and money lost due to the building's lack of occupancy.

Allman said one can hardly put a price on an artifact such as the depot.

"No one can say what this building is worth," she said. "It is priceless, and it by no means replaces the original structure of the building."

Harold McCoy, director of public

works and deputy city manager, said the city has seen no progress on the renovation since Glenn Construction departed from the premises. There also is approximately a 10 percent grant toward the building, according to McCoy. If progress is not seen by December 1990, it will be withdrawn.

Allman said, "There can be no deadline when there was never one set in the original agreement. It is a figment of their imagination."

According to Allman, the state and other private organizations have money invested in the building, but Joplin does not.

Allman said the Joplin Union Depot is the only certified historic renovation in southwest Missouri and "people should pull out all the stops" in enhancing the historical significance of the building.

□ Crosswalk/From Page 1

follow. "Getting the speed limit reduced is a major concern," said Tiede. "It would be helpful if people would just be aware of the crosswalks and slow down."

Since the College remained in the dark as to whether the issue had been considered, concern was voiced at last Thursday's meeting of the Prexy Club.

Tamara Wolf, vice president of the English Club, warned of the danger presented by the crosswalk.

"My mother was trying to cross the road, and one car stopped for her, but one didn't," she said. "If it weren't for the person in the stopped car who motioned to my mother, she would have been hit."

Dr. Glenn Dolence, vice president for student services, sees an immediate need to rectify the "dangerous situation."

"Fortunately, there wasn't an accident, but you can see where some-

thing like that could easily occur."

Dolence cited location of the crosswalks on the crest of a hill and their proximity to "high-traffic entrances" of the campus parking lots as danger factors meriting a speed reduction.

The current speed limit on that section of Duquesne is 45 mph. Tiede did not recommend a specific alternative speed, but said he would be satisfied with a 30 or 35 mph limit.

"In my opinion," Dolence said, "the designated speed is too high, especially when people are trying to cross a four-lane road."

After attention to the situation resurfaced, he asked Tiede to follow up on his initial action on the speed reduction.

"When the issue came up again," said Tiede, "I called the city manager to see what action had been taken, but he was out of town. We are at somewhat of a standstill until he returns."

It has been suggested that another

possible solution to the problem might be to construct a tunnel under the road, similar to the one on Newman Road. However, Tiede does not see this happening in the immediate future. Dolence was involved in actions resulting in the existing tunnel.

"It took a number of years to get the tunnel for Newman Road," he said. "We took tabulations of the number of crossings to the highway and traffic safety committee in Jefferson City and convinced them to take action prior to a fatal accident or serious injury."

"We're in the same situation here—we want to prevent an accident, not after it happens."

While the College waits for progress, Dolence has brought the situation to the executive committee of the Student Senate. He said perhaps the solution lies within the students.

Mary Hanewinkel, Senate president, said she has already discussed the matter at a Senate picnic Monday.

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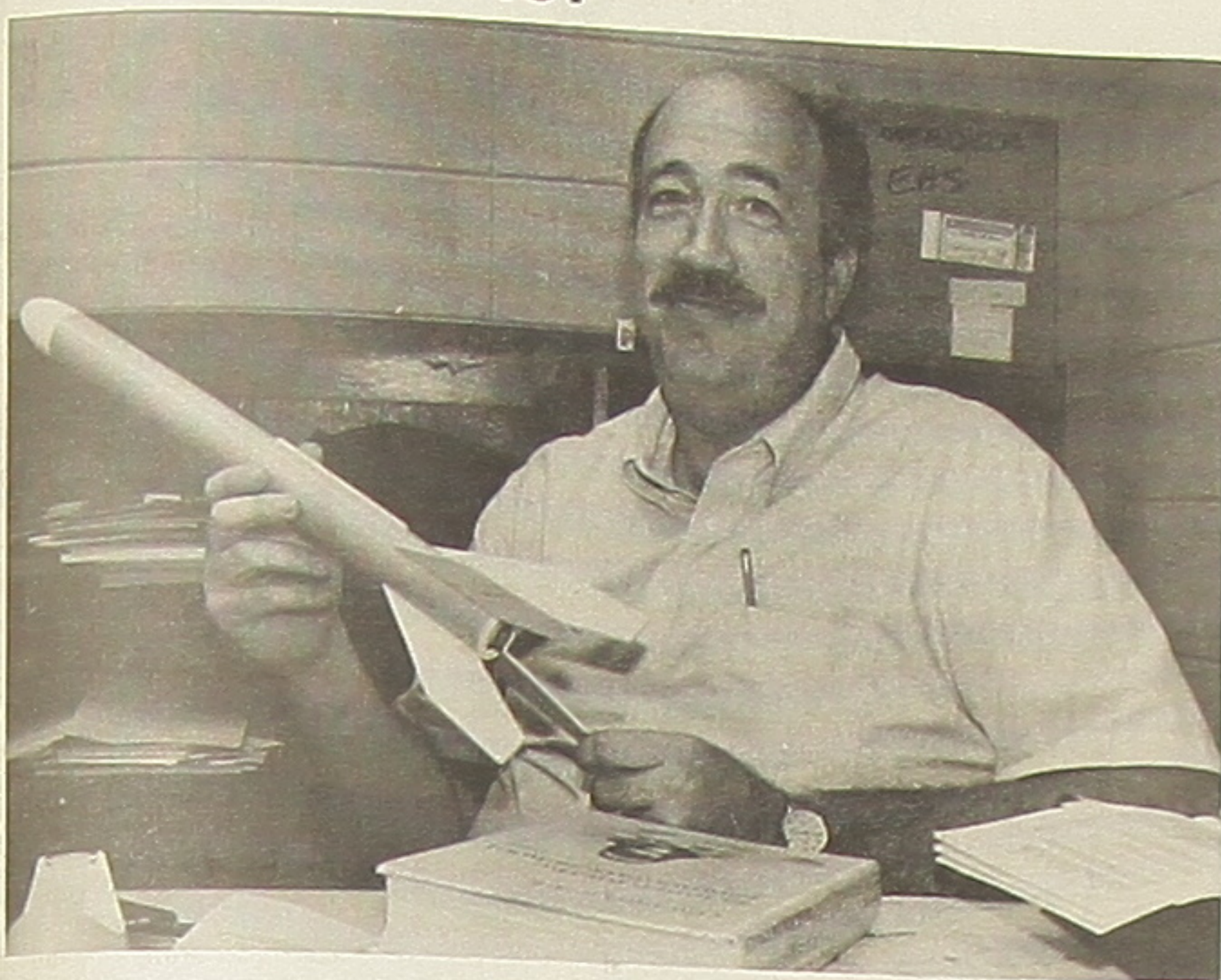
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A GROWN MAN'S TOY



Dr. Dan Overdeer, assistant professor of education, raises gila monster eggs during his spare time.

PHOTO BY CHRIS COX

Hobby proves 'monstrous' for education instructor

Overdeer wants to increase stock of gila species

BY LORENA BATES
STAFF WRITER

Raising gila monsters is what Dr. Dan Overdeer, assistant professor of education, does in his spare time.

"People have a problem with reptiles," he says with a laugh. "Mention reptiles and most people cringe."

Overdeer, a native of Oklahoma, travels to New Mexico and Arizona for gila monster eggs. He then incubates them and raises the hatchlings.

"My partner and I got started in this venture because we like reptiles," Overdeer explains. "This is our first attempt at raising gila monsters. If everything goes OK, we will probably raise them on a regular basis."

"Gila monsters are almost on the endangered list. I will probably keep my hatchling and increase the stock."

Overdeer said his partner plans to sell the young to zoos and preservation groups. His family in Oklahoma

still takes care of the gila monsters.

Overdeer, who taught for 15 years mostly on the junior- and senior-high level, says he is happy that he finally is able to teach at the level he trained for.

Along the way he has worked as an assistant museum curator at Oklahoma State University and as a field biologist. He also taught zoology and vertebrate natural history at OSU.

"Teaching jobs in Oklahoma are hard to find, and college-level places, next to impossible," he says.

Overdeer is concerned about the problems in Oklahoma's education system.

"The problem is so big that finding a solution is not going to be easy. Parents need to get involved and help the kids, too," he says.

Although he is single and does not have any children, the 37-year-old understands parents' frustration over the education problems. He under-

stands the concerns education majors have about finding a good teaching job once they graduate, too.

"The best advice I could give to education majors is to 'get your foot in the door.' Make contacts before you graduate and take the first job you're offered. Work up to the level you want gradually if you have to."

His first year at Missouri Southern is going well. He says everyone—faculty and students—have been cordial and helpful.

"My colleagues have offered me more help than I know what to do with. They offer to help before I know what to ask help with. They've been great," he says with a smile.

He is impressed that the students at Southern are so serious about their studies.

"I like the area. Everyone is friendly, and I haven't had any trouble adjusting. I think Southern is great, and I am glad to be here."

Creepy spiders safe with Myers



Virginia Myers

BY KATIE BUNTON
CHART REPORTER

Spiders are safe in her care as are children, students of all ages, and troubled teachers.

New to Joplin, but not to teaching, Virginia Myers brings compassion and experience to the education department of Missouri Southern. The common thread in her past positions as elementary and secondary educator, private tutor, and administrator is a concern for individuals that binds her to helping both people and spiders.

Myers credits the movie *Charlotte's Web* with preventing her from being able to kill spiders. When she finds them in her home, she carries her many-legged friends outside to freedom—something she also likes to give her students. Her classes are encouraged to pursue learning by personal choice and to reach individual potential.

"My top priority is to make a difference in some small way—to make people aware that I really care about what happens to them and their quality of life. I want to give them the opportunity to excel in some way," she said. "I'd like to be a friend."

The friends she has made on her way to Southern represent many levels of learning. With a background in education, reading, and learning disabilities, Myers' career has been spent assessing the needs of both students and teachers.

Her favorite work as a teacher's teacher involved classroom demonstrating, curriculum adjusting, and alternative suggesting for teachers needing an experienced perspective. Having "always enjoyed children," it was her own first years of classroom teaching that prompted Myers to specialize in the area of learning.

"I saw lots of kids with problems in learning and adjusting to the school environment, and I got really interested in how kids learn and develop intellectually," she said. "I wanted to help them learn—and learn how to learn." The drive to learn took her from middle school, where she

taught remedial classes, to a community college where she married one of her students. Myers says it is her husband, Byron, who "never really felt successful until he got his degree," who pushed her to continue her education. She advises college students to do the same.

"Finish school! Take your time, and don't think that today's decisions are cast in concrete. People don't have to have the same career forever, and you just might get to try it all."

In addition to coordinating Southern's Young Authors Conference for nine counties and teaching seven sections of education classes, Myers herself will soon be trying more. She will be helping to expand the early childhood department—something she studied, with educational psychology, for her doctorate.

Coming from the Ph.D. program of the University of Southern Florida, Myers followed her quest for learning to Joplin in early August. She partly chose Southern for its size and midwestern location. As a native of Indiana, she's excited about living in "a countryside with real trees and real hills again."

Even in the bigger, open space of Missouri, Myers says her "active, involved, open" life won't be hard to fill. If she's not into a frequent "extra project," she might be found at the theatre or catching a game of "anything but hockey or rugby." She'll work in an occasional spy novel for "pure escape," and she'll relax with classical or pop music.

Otherwise, Myers will be at work. The value that she places on individuals and teaching—something she says she shares with Southern—will be evident to those who enter her office. The influential Charlotte, crystallized on a wire web with a ceramic Wilbur nearby, joins cartoon strips, motivational quotes offered from friends, and a teacher's apple to illustrate Myers' self-description.

"I like to have a good time; I love a good joke, and I love what I'm doing. Teaching is the best job in the world."

Ranching ambitions fade for Blevins

BY STACIE SISK
CHART REPORTER

It began as an ambition to write a historical novel about a cattle-ranching family in Wyoming.

Judy Blevins, assistant professor of history, moved from that ambition to teaching when she realized she knew nothing about cattle-ranching or Wyoming. Of her final career choice, she says, "It is very exciting to change people's ideas about history."

Blevins is a social and cultural historian—a student of historical interests, music, family, religion, and culture; "not politics and war."

She still is interested in historical novels. As a student, she felt guilty "just reading for pleasure," so she is now spending a great deal of time reading fictional images of her subject matter.

Blevins' chief interest in both fact and fiction is Arkansas. Born and raised in that state, she became interested in Newton County. She is developing a research project dealing with tourism in that area, the home of such landmarks as Dogpatch U.S.A. The project is part of Blevins' doctoral dissertation, an argumentative treatise required for her degree.

Blevins' chief influence is Frederick Jackson Turner, a frontier historian who developed the idea that the United States is as it is today

because of frontier history. He theorized that the Westward Expansion of people, culture, and ideas will continue indefinitely.

Blevins' classes are aimed toward three goals: (1) development of critical thinking, (2) development of leadership, and (3) development of citizenship. These, Blevins believes, can instill values of good judgement in her students. She sees this as a key objective for college life.

With map tests, Blevins' classes also stress the importance of geography. "If you can't visualize where it's happening," she said, "it is not as important to you."

Blevins plans to stay at Missouri Southern because "MSSC" offers a place to grow professionally. She was impressed by the history department, especially the academic skill and achievement of its members.

What has impressed her more, however, is the student body. She is especially glad to see the many non-traditional students in her classes. Of them she said, "They are very hard-working. It is good to see people who really want to learn."

Blevins received her bachelor's degree from Ouachita Baptist University and her master's from Arkansas State University. Her doctorate will be granted by the University of Arkansas. She majored in U.S. history and minored in the Middle Ages and Renaissance.



Judy Blevins

Schwieger: no changes are in store

BY CHRIS COX
CAMPUS EDITOR

Though he said he is still unfamiliar with Missouri Southern, C. Robert Schwieger has had a "pleasant experience" so far.

"I'm so confused," said Schwieger. "Every name is a new one to me. But the people are being extremely helpful and considerate."

Schwieger, head of the art department, said he has no plans of changing it because of its "high quality" status.

"I emphasize quality teaching that will, in turn, develop a strong art major," he said.

He comes to the College from a North Dakota university half the size of Southern.

"The tuition there is so high that people are not going to the universities," said Schwieger. "The future there is going to be rocky."

With his wife, Ladonna, and his "severely spoiled" cat, Tigger, Schwieger arrived at the College in July. Before the two-day, 500-mile journey, he said he was more worried about how his cat would react to traveling than anything else.

Schwieger said he is happy with the things Southern has to offer. "I'm impressed with the maturity of the students," he said. "I also like the size of the community and school. I don't feel lost in a big mill."

According to Schwieger, he used to have to drive 13 hours to Denver to get to any decent-sized city.

In a world with such a variety of art, Schwieger said his favorite type has always been children's art.

"It's not bogged out with all that

DEPARTMENT HEAD

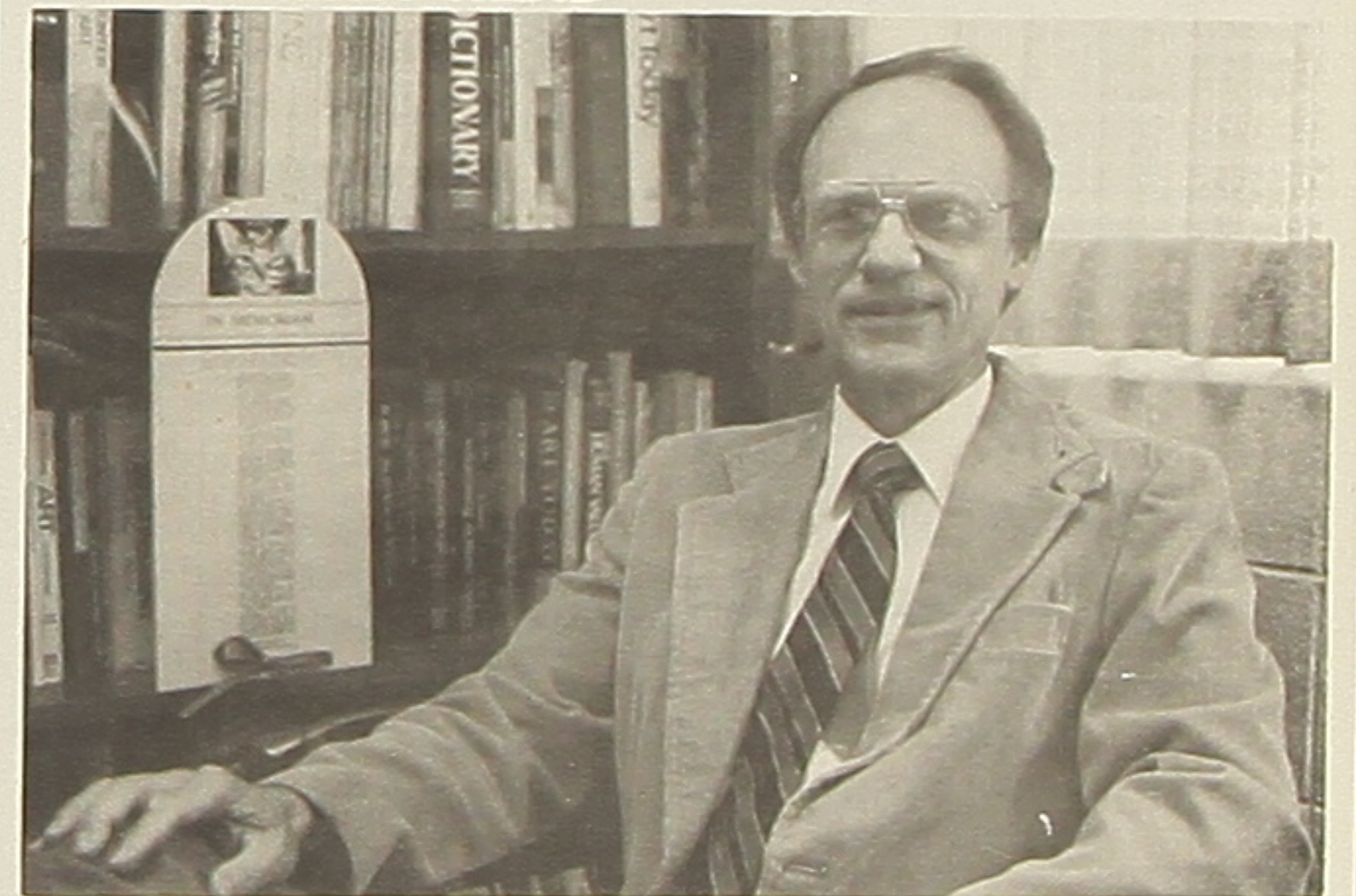


PHOTO BY CHRIS COX

Robert Schwieger, new head of the art department, has taken a liking to the atmosphere at Southern.

psychological hot air," he said. "I think we have over-intellectualized art. We have all had that kind of spontaneity."

Schwieger said his favorite artist is Paul Cezanne because of the artist's focus on composition.

In his free time, Schwieger plans to renew his challenge with "that lawnmower." He also finds time for his own artwork, usually done on a simple, flat drawing board.

"I don't need any hydraulic equipment," he said.

Of all the features about North Dakota, he said he misses the beauty of the Great Plains most.

"They give you a sense of who and what you are," said Schwieger. "You

don't get this in a metropolis area. I like to have privacy sometimes."

Schwieger, a member of People for the Ethical Treatment of Ani-

"Why should a child still developing sensitivity be forced to poke a living creature?"

Through all the confusion and

"I'm impressed with the maturity of the students. I also like the size of the community and school. I don't feel lost in a big mill."

—Robert Schwieger, head of art

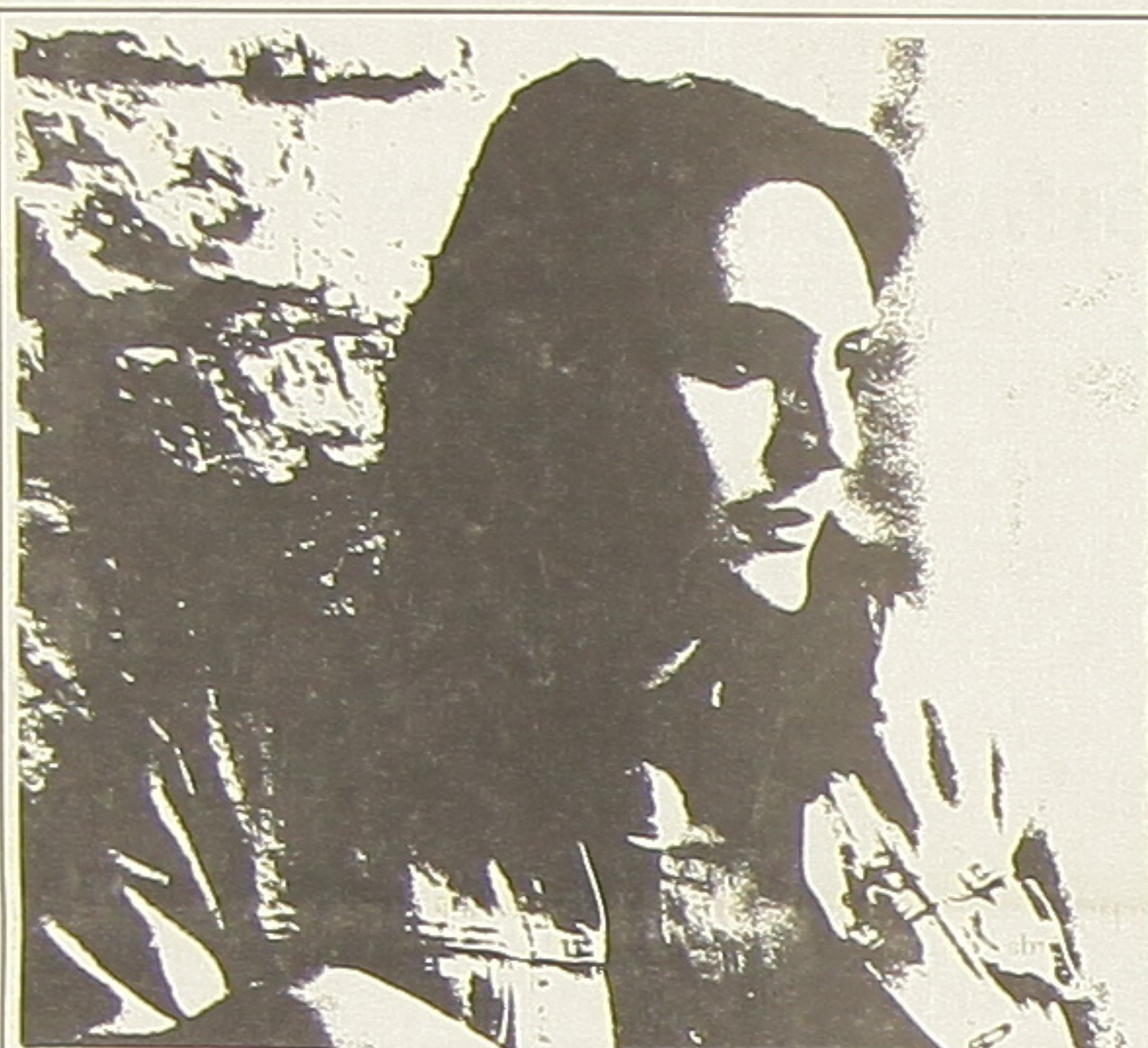
mals, said society doesn't respect animal rights and that it is a shame biology students are sometimes forced to hurt animals.

work, Schwieger said he feels confident about the year's outlook.

"I will have good time," he said.

CAB Presents... Homecoming '90

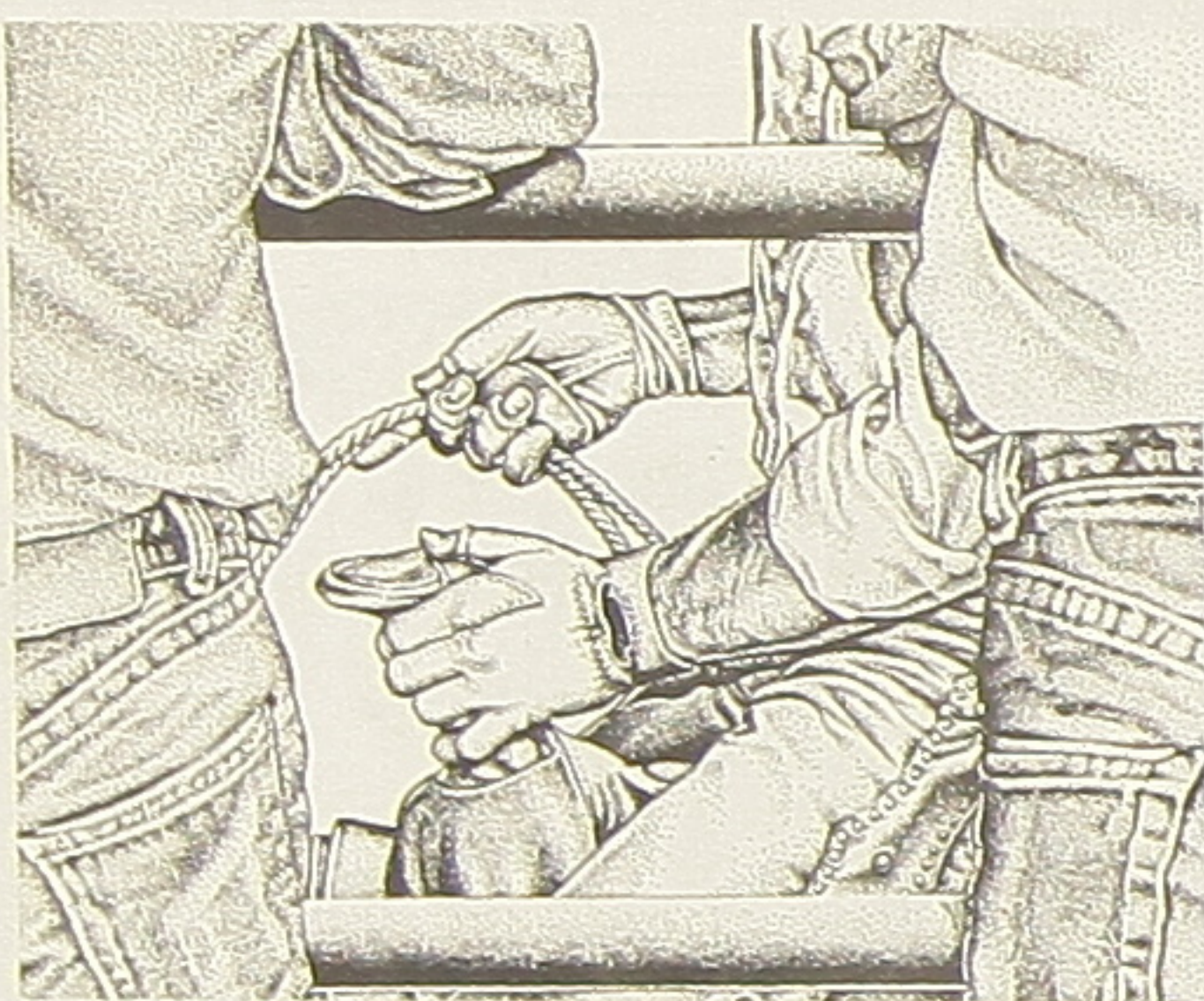
Octoberfest



Bill Miller

Oct. 17th

Singer: Bill Miller, 11 a.m., BSC, Lions' Den
Lecture: adult children of alcoholics
BSC, Lions' Den, 2 p.m.



Thursday, Oct. 25, 2 p.m.
Rodeo Club/CAB Rodeo
Stadium Field, Free to Students

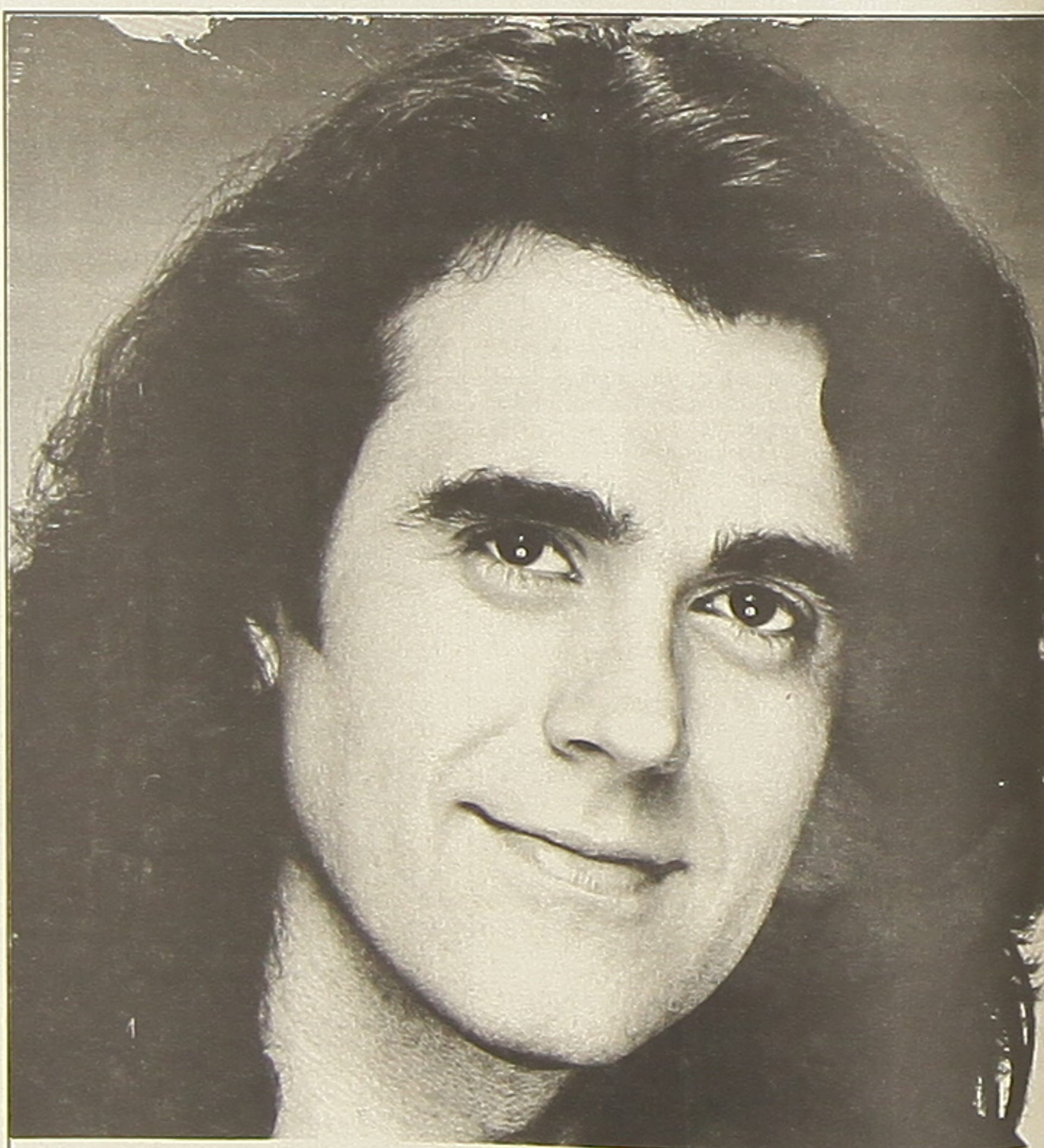
Other October Events

- Oct. 8► The Ultimate Video Fantasy—Make your own music video! 9-2, Lions' Den. FREE!
- Oct. 22► Kier (musical comedian), 7 p.m., BSC, 2nd Floor Lounge. FREE!
- Oct. 30► Austin on Tap, Dance troupe. 8 p.m., Taylor Performing Arts Center
- Oct. 31► Halloween dance with C. Fox and Co., 9 p.m.-midnight. Lion's Den.



Homecoming Calendar

- Monday►** 2 p.m.—Rehearsal for Fashion Show—BSC, Keystone
7:30 p.m.—Talent Show—BSC Connor Ballroom
- Tuesday►** All day—Campus displays to be judged.
7 p.m.—Royalty fashion show—Penney's Court, Northpark Mall
- Wednesday►** 7 p.m.—Comedian Dave Edison, BSC 2nd floor lounge. Sponsored by CAB.
- Thursday►** 8 p.m.—Spirit Bonfire, Stadium, North Field.
- Friday►** 10:40 a.m.-1:15 p.m.—All-campus cookout, BSC Lawn. Free WITH MSSC I.D.
Noon—Announcement of Royalty Finalists, Royalty, and Outstanding Alumni. Pep rally following the announcement.
1:30 p.m.—Rehearsal for half-time coronation.
8 p.m.-midnight—Homecoming Celebration, Hammons Center. Featuring CFOX and Company. MSSC students, faculty, staff, and alumni free with I.D. Others \$3.00



MIKE SACCONE

Singer/Comedian

Appearing live at the homecoming cookout!
Sponsored by CAB

MORE THAN JUST A WALK IN THE PARK



STAFF PHOTOS BY MARK ANCELL

Participants in Southern's Stampede head out for the men's division of the meet. (Above) Mike Allen, sophomore, starts the second leg of the Stampede. Allen finished 19th overall in the competition.

Runners take fourth in meet

Vigil says Southern course among the 'best'

BY NICK COBLE
STAFF WRITER

Hard work and perseverance appears to have resulted in a successful weekend for the cross country Lions as they hosted the Southern Stampede last Saturday.

The University of Arkansas captured first place on the men's eight-kilometer course with 19 points out of a field of 17 teams. Joe Vigil's Adams State team took second place, followed by the University of Missouri-Columbia and Southern.

The Southern men's team went into Saturday's competition without its No. 4 and 5 runners due to injury and illness. Jason Riddle led the team by placing 12th with a time of 25:16. Jon Hatley was 13th with a time of 25:23.

"I was surprised by my perfor-

mance," said Riddle. "The crowd helped toward the end. They really pulled me through."

Southern's women's team took fifth out of a field of 11 teams. Freshman runner Bridget Harris led with 29th place and a time of 19:49. Thus far this season has found a different women's team leader in each race. Coach Tom Rutledge cites inconsistency as a reason for the lack of a clear-cut leader for the women.

For Rutledge, the Southern Stampede was the result of a year's work. Assisting Rutledge were more than 40 volunteers, including members of the Joplin Roadrunners Club and Southern faculty members.

"One of our goals was to show people that education and athletics work hand in hand," he said. "That's why we instituted our clinic along with an athletic competi-

tion."

Rutledge plans for next year's Southern Stampede to become even larger after this year's response.

"Joe Vigil (renowned running coach) called it one of the best courses in America," Rutledge said. "Coming from him, that makes me feel very, very proud."

Next on the cross country agenda will be this Saturday's competition at the Oklahoma State University Jamboree in Stillwater. Southern will once again face a number of NCAA Division I schools.

According to sophomore runner Riddle, competing with much larger schools provides a challenge rather than an intimidation.

"I'd like to run with the Division I guys and go as far as I can with them [during Saturday's competition]," he said.

Lions end Washburn jinx in 30-6 victory

ROD SHETLER
STAFF WRITER

Even though they were not "at their best," the football Lions thrashed Washburn 30-6 Saturday night. The win was the first for the Ichabods in Hughes Stadium since 1982.

"Our performance was really fine the first and fourth quarters," said Lantz, head coach. "I thought we took a nap in the second and third quarters and played down to our level emotionally as well as physically."

The Lions scored 15 points in both the first and the fourth quarters. The other team was obviously having internal problems, and it was one of those games where you can beat them, get the game back, and get them on the road," said Lantz.

Southern, 2-1, finished ahead in all of the final statistics. The Lions totaled 331 yards of total offense to 169 for the Ichabods.

Southern also held the ball almost a full 10 minutes more than Washburn, now 1-3.

"We basically controlled the football, and by doing that controlled the game," Lantz explained. "It wasn't one of those great college football games. It wasn't one of those emotional wins like we had against Northwest [Missouri State University]. It was one of those games where you just try to function as a unit and do your best."

The Lions scored with 10:58 left in the first quarter on junior running back Cleon Burrell's 38-yard scamper for a touchdown. Southern's attempt for a two-point conversion failed, but with 2:54 left in the first quarter, Southern strong safety Jason Wright tackled a Washburn running back in the end zone for a safety.

"I saw the running back take off," said Wright. "On the film I saw the wingback was supposed to come out and get me. I just beat him to the ball."

Junior wide receiver Heath Helsel

and sophomore Rod Smith each caught touchdown passes from sophomore quarterback Matt Cook. Burrell also ran in a three-yard touchdown with 6:43 left in the game. Burrell ran for 174 yards on 30 carries and now leads the MIAA in rushing with 395 yards.

"My offensive line likes to watch me run," said Burrell with a laugh. "They like to go down knocking people around, then they just look up and watch me run."

The win did not come cheaply for the Lions as they lost senior linebacker Rob Davies for the rest of the season with a broken arm.

Southern coaches and players said Washburn will not take home any sportsmanship trophies in the near future.

"Quite honestly, I felt like they were doing a lot of cheap shooting, late hitting, and talking," said Lantz. "I felt like we joined in with them. We didn't do any late hitting, but we did start talking, and consequently you saw our performance dip in the

second and third quarter."

Said Burrell, "After Saturday we're going to have to watch the high tempers and just stick to our game plan. We let them get under our skin."

The upcoming game against Northeast Missouri State University will be a difficult one for both teams. In last Saturday's 13-3 win over Southwest Baptist, Northeast linebacker Derringer Cade collapsed on the sidelines and was pronounced dead at a Bolivar hospital. Cause of death was attributed to a rare heart disease.

After the Bulldogs held a team meeting Monday, it was announced they would go ahead with the game, scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday in Kirksville.

"I think one of the main things we want to do is not to relive last year this week," said Lantz, referring to the Oct. 29 car accident which injured three Southern players and claimed the life of a fourth.

"The two situations are entirely different in that when we went to

battle last year against Rolla we still had three in the hospital, one in critical condition.

"In some ways we might be the best team for them to play in the conference this week because we can empathize. We have been in one of those strange, eerie games before, and this week could possibly be the same kind of game."

Said Wright, "We can relate to them. But once game time comes, they will be ready. We're going to want that win just as bad as they are, though."

Northeast, 3-1, has one of the best offenses in the MIAA. Its only loss came to Pittsburg State 64-30.

"I think the story of the day will be how our defense copes with their offense," said Lantz. "If our defense is out there a long time we'll lose the ballgame."

"They have plenty of speed," said junior cornerback James Holdman. "We'll go at them with our same game plan. They run a lot of crossing patterns which are hard to cover."

Lady Lions go 0-4 at Pittsburg

Team doesn't play up to potential, says Traywick

JAN GARDNER
STAFF WRITER

Disappointment over the performance of the volleyball team in last week's play was shared by the coach and team members alike.

The Lady Lions emerged from the MIAA tournament at Pittsburg State University with an overall record of 0-4 in conference play.

Coach Debbie Traywick said her team could have performed better. "We didn't play up to potential," said Traywick, who would like to see the team gain more confidence during competition.

According to Traywick, communication on the floor was one aspect of its game that wasn't up to par, and is something the team will focus on in the future along with consistency, which has been a problem in the past.

"Consistency didn't improve as a whole," she said, "although the hitting percentage went up as a team." Bright spots could be found, however, as Traywick noted that the team's passing was one major strength during the tournament.

The Lady Lions' closest match was against Northeast Missouri State University, who defeated them in three games. Missouri Western and Washburn University each downed

Southern in three.

According to Traywick, the squad played its best volleyball of the weekend against nationally ranked Southeast Missouri State University, who eventually won the match in four games.

Tuesday night, the team squared off against the Lady Panthers of Drury College in Springfield, an annual rival. The Lady Lions lost 15-12, 13-15, 15-6, 15-5.

Traywick said it was "hard to pinpoint" what went wrong against Drury.

"It's almost like they try so hard that nothing goes right," she said. "We did some good things; we just didn't score points."

"It's almost like they try so hard that nothing goes right. We did some good things; we just didn't score points."

—Debbie Traywick, head volleyball coach

According to Traywick, the Lady Lions had some trouble serving, and the team needs to work hard on getting comfortable with basic skills so it can work harder on perfecting game strategies.

She believes the team, now 5-10,

has potential for future successes, but experience and self-assurance will have to come first.

"Right now, we're a young team that needs some confidence to win games," said Traywick.

The team has a full week to prepare for the Missouri Western Invitational in St. Joseph, Oct. 5-6.

Traywick is not yet sure what to expect from next week's competition, but she is using the break in the schedule to work the team on conditioning and to catch up on weight lifting. Besides physical strength, Traywick also is concerned with building up the team's "mental toughness."

Twenty schools will compete in

the tournament, including teams from Nebraska, Texas, Wisconsin, and Missouri. Game times have not been announced.

The Lady Lions return home on Tuesday, Oct. 9 in a 7 p.m. meeting with Tulsa University.

Southern still unbeaten at home after 2-1 victory

BY STEVE SAKACH
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Remaining undefeated at home with a 2-1 over Oklahoma Christian College, the soccer Lions travel to Kansas City Sunday.

In Tuesday's game, Butch Cumisky gave the Lions the lead midway through the second half with his fourth goal of the season. Cumisky received a pass from Joey Caulk and tapped it in with his left foot.

"I didn't even have a defender to beat," Cumisky said. "Caulk gave me a good pass, and I put it in the lower righthand corner."

Caulk, who came into the game tied for 17th in total points in NCAA Division II, has 12 points from five goals and two assists.

The Lions took a 1-0 lead when Mike Prater scored 23 minutes into the first half. Tom Kohler and Chuck Mathis were credited with assists.

The assist for Mathis, tied for seventh in the nation, was his sixth of the season. Mathis is also tied with Caulk in total points.

OCC, 4-4, evened the game three minutes later when Southern broke down defensively. Kevin Arledge headed in a free kick from Rusty Wood.

"You've got to talk back there," said junior Eric Mallory. "A guy

was wide open, and we didn't have defenders on the poles like we should have. We had a decent game, though, but not a great one."

Coach Scott Poertner gave credit to Mallory on defense, who had to take over the sweeper position because of an injury to Tim Larsen.

Goal keeper Jim Kantola also made several key saves for the Lions in the second half. OCC put together a series of scoring opportunities after Cumisky's go-ahead goal, but Kantola was able to hold the team off.

"He played incredible," Cumisky said. "We've got a couple of defenders out with injuries, and we put freshmen in their place. But we still were able to control them (OCC) back there."

"They're a real strong team," Poertner said of OCC. "They matched up to us fairly well. I'd say they are one of the top three or four teams we've played."

Southern travels to Park Hill High School in Kansas City to face St. Mary of the Plains at noon Sunday. Last year the Lions beat the Kansans 3-0.

"They should be pretty tough," said Cumisky, who played against St. Mary last year. "Our games with them have been close the last two years."



ROD SHETLER

Live every moment to the fullest

The pitcher eyed the batter with a look of domination. It was the final baseball game I would ever play in. Although, at the time, I was hoping above hope that I would be able to put on old No. 8 at least one more time.

It was the 1988 Class 1A quarterfinals to decide who would compete in the state semifinals in Columbia and who would simply go home. My Plato Eagles were playing against the Crane Pirates. Both of us had at one time been behind, come back, and been behind again. Now, in the last inning, my Eagles were behind by three runs with two out. But, the bases were loaded. "Who's up to bat?", you ask. Just like that old beer commercial says, "Oh no, it's Rodney."

I wasn't quite the pushover that Mr. Dangerfield was, however. A power hitter I wasn't, but in that senior season I had gotten my share of base hits.

I strode to the plate with the arrogance of a Mantle, the confidence of a Musial, the...oh, who am I kidding? I was shaking like a leaf. But I think I hid it well. As I got set in the batter's box I was just trying to look at it as just another at-bat.

At that instant two things invaded my mind: one was that a home run would score four runs, we would win, and I would be a hero. The other was that a strikeout would end my baseball career and I would be the goat.

The pitcher let go with a curve that I considered to be outside, but the umpire thought must have been borderline. Strike one. I turned and shot the umpire a look that would have chilled most men's blood, but he was not swayed.

I stepped out of the box to try to clear these bothersome do-or-die thoughts out of my head. I checked my coach at third who was curiously still, no longer going through his routine of flashing signs. Plato didn't have a sign for "Get a hit, you idiot!" He was just watching along with the hundreds in the stands.

I stepped back in and prepared myself for the next offering. The pitcher let go with his fastball. I took a mighty rip and sent nothing but air and my imagination over the left-field fence. Strike two. I checked my bat for a hole large enough for a baseball to have just fit through, and seeing none I stepped back in for what would be my last pitch.

The pitcher delivered, I swung, missed, and we lost. The ground didn't open up and swallow me, the sky didn't turn black-spit lightning on the winning team, and angels didn't sing a hymn. I struck out, walked back to the bench, and started reflecting on my high school baseball career.

To this day I still reflect, quite often, and by looking at it I feel I can learn an awful lot about life.

By playing those four years, and then in just one at-bat seeing it end, I learned to live every moment to its fullest. It sounds like something you might read on a Hallmark card, but it is really the truth.

Especially if you are involved in something fun and even if you are doing something you don't enjoy doing, take it all in—the sights, the sounds, everything. At some point in your life you will want to look back on those times in the past, and you won't want to regret not doing something or not saying something which could have made an impact.

We all will have those regrets, but we should make an attempt to never leave anything undone. Life is too short to always be regretting the loss of some missed opportunity.

When I look back now on that ballgame, I see now that by losing I learned so much about myself and life in general.

But what if...

NO TIME FOR SLAMMING



Area club draws competitors from throughout four states

Skateboarders from around the four-state area got the chance to show their skills at the 1990 Fall Frenzy.

The competition was held Sunday at the Bullet Skateboard Club in Joplin.

Camilla Marshall, mother of two skaters at the competition, said the club is something not found in the area where she lives.

"The boys are usually frowning at home," said Marshall, a resident of Overland Park, Kan. "They don't have anything like this club at home."

In Overland Park, Marshall said, city officials are in the process of restricting skaters from the business districts.

She said the skaters are very dedicated to their sport. Some have continued the sport despite numerous injuries.

"I have ruptured a spleen, have had a couple concussions, and broke a wrist," said Joe Thomas, 17, of Ft. Scott, Kan. Thomas said he has been skating since the fourth grade, and likes it so much he can't stop.

"I don't like to do much else," he said.

"Probably my worst injury is my

pride," said skater Darin Grey, who didn't think he did as well at the competition as he could have.

Mike Hafle, who owns the skateboard club, said he bought the building because parents and skaters expressed the need for a skating facility. He previously owned a skateboarding retail store in Joplin.

"We've provided skaters a good facility," Hafle said, "but the majority of people benefitting from it are from out of town."

Hafle said people have come from as far away as Texas and Wisconsin to skate at the club.

Okla., and asked me 'How much those wrist guards?' I said 'They were \$22.75,' Hafle said. "I said 'Each?'"

Hafle said the same wrist guards were \$20 each in Miami.

Many skaters entering the competition, according to Hafle, wear gear from Street Life, another skateboarding retailer in town. He said it disappoints him.

"It's not so much that buying from the competition disappoints me," Hafle said. "I like competition."

He said the club is not making enough money "retail wise

"We've provided skaters a good facility but the majority of people benefitting from it are from out of town."

—Mike Hafle, owner, Bullet Skateboard Club

"We've got hundreds of good customers," he said.

Hafle also said that most, if not all of the skateboarding equipment and clothes, are cheaper at his store than at others.

"A kid came down from Miami,

could cause it to shut down."

Currently, Bullet Skateboard Club has more than 200 members, and 100 more skaters working to join. To be a member, skaters must sign an application agreement, mandatory to wear safety



(Top) Hunter Marshall skirts the edge of the ramp during the Fall Frenzy competition at Bullet Skateclub. Marshall's brother, John (far right), also participated in the competition. (Middle left) A skater prepares to launch onto the ramp to begin his trial. (Middle right) Darin Grey and Charles Hernandez talk between segments of the competition. Both were participants. (Right) Charles Hernandez performs as judges Michael Cleveland (left) and Jason Amos evaluate the skater's ability. (Above) Jason Amos displays his unique personality and appearance.

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